

EPICURUS'S
MORALS,

Collected

Partly out of his own Greek Text, in
DIogenes Laertius,

And

Partly out of the Rhapsodies of
Marcus Antoninus, Plutarch,
Cicero, & Seneca.

And faithfully Englished.

Ita quidem ipsa summa est (hinc tunc natus pectoribus dicam) Epicurus, & rara praecepit, & si praecepit, miserae, tristia.

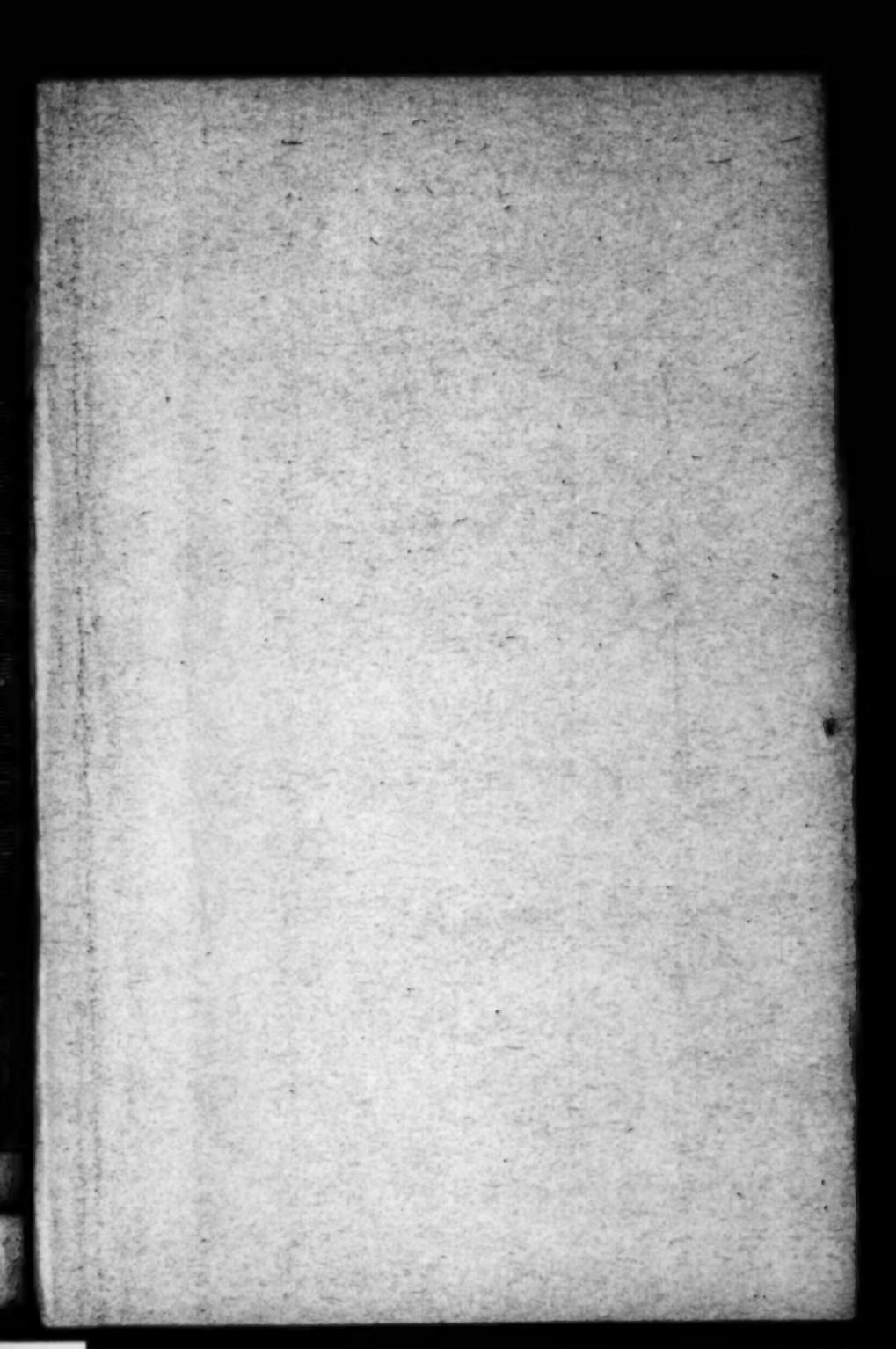
Seneca lib. de virtutibus, cap. 13.

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EPICURI EFFIGIES.
Ex Cimel. Cl. Vivi Etiel Puteani.



ERIC A. S. 2

MORALS.

Collingwood

Play out of Town Chalk Talk in
Birkenhead a Lecture

Auditorium

Finally one of the Republicans of
Newark and the Bayonne
Chamber of Commerce

Local English

Wanted to have a good time
and to have a good time
he had to have a good time

Surely a good time

Local

Local for W. W. W. W. W. W. W.
and in the Town-hall of the West
County. MDCCXX.



AN
A P O L O G I E
FOR
E P I C U R U S,

*As to the three Capital Crimes whereof
he is accused.*

Written in a Letter, to a Person of Honour.

SIR,

Your beloved EPICURUS, having lately learn'd English, on purpose to converse more familiarly with you; comes now no length to wait upon you, and at your vacant hours to entertain you with grave Discourses touching the Happiness of Man's life, and the right means of attaining it, Wisdom. I have no reason to doubt of his welcome and kind reception by you, considering that he comes not, but upon your frequent, and (I am confident) hearty invitatione of him;

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your own ingenious and commendable desire to be intimately acquainted with his Principles, and Doctrine of Morality, and to hear him speak his own Thoughts purely and sincerely, having been the only occasion and motive to my assistance of him in his Travels from Greece into this Country, and my accommodation of him with an such an Equipage, as might be exactly suitable as well to your wishes, as to his own mind. Nay more, I have reason to presume, that a few days conversation will create in you a very great dearness towards him, as well because I am assured you will soon find him what you expect, a sublime Wit, a profound Judgment, and a great Master of Temperance, Sobriety, Continence, Fortitude and all other Virtues, not a Patron of Impiety, Gluttony, Drunkenness, Luxury and all kinds of Intemperance, as the common people (being mis-inform'd by such learned men as either did not rightly understand, or would not rightly represent his opinions) generally conceive him to be; as because I have perceived him not only to give strong and lively bias to sundry of those sublime speculations, wherewith your thoughts are sometimes delightfully employed; but also solidly to assert many of those Tenets, which I have often heard you defend, with the like Reasons,

and

and which indeed nothing but the voluntary and affected Ignorance of Superstition will deny. So that, if the Rule hold, that Similitude of Opinions, is an Argument of Similitude in Affections, and Similitude of Affections the ground of Love and Friendship, certainly I am not altogether destitute of support for my conjecture, and consequently that you will soon admit him into your Bosom, and treat him with all the demonstrations of respect due to so excellent a Companion.

But, as there is no Beauty without some moles, no Chrystal without some specks; so is not our EPICURUS without his imperfections, and you will discover in him some things which cannot escape your reprobation; and yet I expect, that your censure of him should be much more moderate and charitable, than that of the ignorant and scarce humane Multitude bush been for many ages together. And therefore I ask leave to state the Nature of his guilt unto you, and afterwards to give you my Judgment therupon; in the mean time humbly leaving you to the Liberty of your own more judicious sentiments of both the one and the other. For, my design herein, is not to possess your breast with my thoughts concerning the crimes usually charged upon this Philosopher, but to dispossess it of an opinion that I might have the same im-

dignation against him in respect of some un-
justifiable positions of his, as not only the
common people, but even the greatest number
of scholars, have for many hundred of years,
entertain'd. And what I shall say to that pur-
pose I humbly desire you will be pleas'd to
understand to be intended as an Exercitati-
on, to take off from his memory the greatest
part of that unjust Odium, and Infamy which
envy and malice on one hand, and Ignorance
and Inhumanity on the other, have cast upon
it, to the eclipsing even of all his excellent
merits from the Commonwealth of Philoso-
phy, and not as a defence of any unreasonable
or dangerous Error, whereof he is found re-
ally guilty. Which was more, perhaps then
was needful for me to advertise you of, who
well understand the difference betwixt a Vin-
dication and an Excusation; that it is one
thing to mitigate a too severe and rash sen-
tence, and another to justify the Offender.
And therefore without any further Apologizing
for my short Apology for EPICURUS, I di-
rectly address to my Province,

The Opinions, which, being asserted by
him in this Treatise concerning Ethics,
have so much intenc'd the world against him,
are principally these three. (I.) That the
Souls of men are mortal, and so uncapa-
ble of all either happiness or misery after
death.

death. (2.) That Man is not obliged to honour, revere, and worship God, in respect of his beneficence, or out of the hope of any Good or Fear of any evil at his hands, but meerly in respect of the transcendent Excellencies of his Nature, Immortality, and Beatitude. (3.) That Self-homicide is an Act of Heroick Fortitude in case of intolerable or otherwise inevitable Calamity. These, I confess, are Positions to be rather wholly condemned and abominated, than in the least measure patroniz'd by us Christians, whose understandings (thanks be to the mercy of the Fountain of Wisdom) are illuminated by a brighter light than that of Nature; and yet notwithstanding when I remember, that our Philosopher was a meer Naturalist, born and educated in times of no small Pagan darkness, and consider that neither of these Tenents will be found up-on due Examination so destitute of all support of Reason, as rash and unexamining heads have apprehended, I profess I cannot but think it an argument of much more inhumanity than judicious zeal in any man, upon this account alone, to invade him with the crimination of superlative Impiety, Blasphemy, and absolute Atheism. For, as to the FIRST, viz., That the humane

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man's soul doth not survive the funeral of the body, but absolutely perish in the instant of death; as I need not tell you, how uncomfortable an Opinion it is to all Virtuous Persons, and how manifestly repugnant to Christianism, and indeed to the fundamental Reason of all Religions beside (if I may be admitted to use that improper phrase of the vulgar, while I well know that there can be but one Religion truly so called, and that all the rest are more properly called Superstitions) so I need not advertise you how highly difficult it is to refute it, by satisfactory and convincing Arguments deducible from mere Reason. For, to suspect the light of Nature, is scarce strong enough by its own single force, to dispel all those thick mists of difficulties, that binder our discernment of the full nature of the humane soul, and scarce bright enough clearly to demonstrate the immortality of that noble Essence, so, as to leave no room for diffidence or contradiction; I hope it can be no Heresy in any man, because no disparagement to either his Faith or Reason. You have, Sir, I presume, attentively perused that so worthily commend-ed Discourse of Plato, touching the immortality of Man's soul, and acquainted yourself moreover with all those mighty Arguments, adduced by Saint Thomas, Pompontius

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ponatius (who will hardly be out-done in subtlety, touching the same Theme, by any that comes after him; and yet he was forced to conclude himself a Sceptick, and leave the Question to the decision of some other bolden Pen.) DesCartes, our noble friend Sir Kenelm Digby, and divers other great Clerks, to prove the Soul of Man to be a substance distinct from, and independent upon that of the body, and to have eternal existence à parte post; and yet if I were not assured, that your persuasion of its immortality is founded upon a much more firm basis, than that of the most seemingly apodictical of all their Reasons, I might well doubt of the impregnability thereof. And this I may say somewhat the more freely and boldly, both because I my self, having with all possible attention, and equity of mind, examined the validity of most of those Arguments, for the immortality of mens souls, which their Authors have presented as perfect Demonstrations thereof, cannot find any of them to make good that glorious Title, or satisfy expectation to the full; and because I have observed many learned men, Divines, and others, who have long laboured their thoughts in the same Disquisition, to concur with me in opinion, That to believe the Soul of Man to be immortal, upon Principles

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ciples supernatural, is much more easie, then to demonstrate the same by Reasons purely Natural. Now, if for the most sublime Wits, even of our times (wherein the Metaphysicks have, doubtless, received a very great encrease of clearness, and mens Speculations seem to be highly refined, in regard of sundry lively and fruitful hints, that are inspersed upon the leaves of sacred Writ, concerning as well the Original and Nature of the Soul, as the state of it after death.) it be so hard a task to erect a firm persuasion of the immortality of the knowinge soul, upon a foundation of Natural Reason alone; I appeal to every imprejudicte man, with what justice our EPICURUS is so highly condemned, for being ignorant of that unattainable Truth, when he could steer the course of his judgment and belief by no other Star, but that remote and pale one of the Light of Nature, that bright North-Star of Holy Scripture appearing not at all to the Horizon of Greece, till many Ages after his death.

Again, EPICURUS is not the only man amongst the Ancients that is to be accused, for entertaining and divulging erroneous conceptions of the nature and condition of the reasonable soul after death, it being well known, that most of the Grecian Philosophers did indubitate the incorruptibility thereof,

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tbereof, either implicitly and upon consequence, or immediately, and in direct terms. This perhaps may seem a Paradox to you, and therefore I ask leave to make it good. The Grecian Scholiarchs may all be divided into two Classes, in reference to this subject; the First consisting of those who Asserted, the other of such as expressly Denied the Immortality of Man's Soul, the former containing the greater, the latter the lesser number, and among all those that are on the Affirmative part, you shall not find one that is not (more or less) tainted with that so common Error, of the Refusion of all mens Souls after death, into the Anima Mundi, or general Soul of the Universe, which is upon consequence, That they cease to exist, yet so far to be what they were before, so soon as they are separated from the body. For your further satisfaction of this unfrequent Truth, be pleased to observe that as they generally conceived the soul of every individual man, to be a certain particle of the Mundane, or universal soul, immitted into the body at its conception, and therin contained during life, as a drop of water is contained in a Glass Phial; so did they also conceive, that the same soul, upon the breaking of the Glass, or dissolution of the Body, doth flow forth, and again return and unite it self to the

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the universal soul, from whence it was at first destined. Thus Plutarch (4 Placit. 9.) expressly tells us, that Pythagoras and Plato maintained, that Mans Soul having taken its particle of the body [αετιώ τε μάρτυς τυχώνται οὐκέτι σωρός] in congeuiam sibi animam Mundi concedere, doth return to the soul of the world, which is of the same substance and nature with it. Now by this common soul of the world, it is manifest, that they sometimes meant God, in respect they acknowledged him to be the supreme Intelligent, or Mind, which disposeth and ordereth all parts of the body; and sometimes the Heavens, because as Heaven is the most pure and noble part of the Universe, so is the soul the most pure and noble part of Man.

This considered, you have here an opportunity (at least, if a short and pertinent digression may be opportune) of taking notice in what sense we are to understand some remarkable passages in their Writings, touching the human soul, which are often mentioned, but seldom rightly interpreted.

First, we may hence collect what their true meaning was, when they said; Animam esse divinæ auro Particulam, that the soul is a particle of Divine breath, or as Cicero speaks, (in Cato Major) Ex Divina mente universa

An Apology for Epionius.

versa delibutos animos habemus: We have
our souls derived from the Universal Divine
Mind; And again, when they affirmed, that
our souls were taken from Heaven, and to
return thither again after their emancipation
from the body: All which the Prince of Po-
ets elegantly insinuates in these Verses;

— Deum namq; ire per omnes
Terrasque tractusque maris, et cunctaque
profundum;
Heinc homines, armenta, viros, genus omne
ferarum,
Quemque sibi tenues nascentes arcere
vitae,
Scilicet hac reddi deinde ac resoluta referri
Omnia, nec morti esse locum; sed viva
evolare
Sideris in numerum, atque alio succedere
caelo.

Secondly, we may hence learn the sense of
Empedocles, as well in that saying quoted
by Plutarch (de exilio) Præsentem vitam
esse exilium, è quo tandem animus sit
in pristinam sedem demigratrus, That
this present life is a banishment of the soul,
from which it is at length to be recall'd to
its primitive place; as in that mentioned by
Clem. Alexandrius (Lib. 4. Stromat. 2.

hypo-

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hypotypos. 24.) Animas sapientiam. Deos fieri. That the souls of Wise-men become Gods.
Thirdly, we may hence know how to understand the true sense of Plato's opinion, that all Learning is only Recollection. For supposing the Soul of the Universe to be omniscient, and each particle thereof to be of the same nature and faculties with the whole; he thereupon infers, that the soul of each man being a particle of that Universal and omniscient soul, must be likewise omniscient, though in the moment, when it is immersed into the body, it becomes dim and clouded, so that as if it had been made drunk with Lethe, or the Waters of Oblivion, it forgets all its Original knowledge, and must recollect and call to mind the notions of particular things, by the help and mediation of the senses.

Lastly, why Pythagoras and Plato, to this opinion of the Souls Remigration to the Universal Soul, connected that their other so famous one, of the Transmigration of souls from body to body, successively. For, having imbibed this latter error of the soul transmigration, in their conversation with some Egyptian Priests, as Stobaeus informs us (in Eccl. Physic.) they strived to accommodate the same to their own former

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former opinion, of the soule being a particle
of the Anima mundi; insomuch as it might
thence follow, that the soul being exhal'd
from its first body, and wandering up and
down in quest of its Fountain, the universal
soul, might probably enough light upon some
other body then in the act of Conception, and
being united therunto, animate it; or be-
ing by inspiration attracted into some living
creature, unite it self to the soul preexistent
therein, and so become one with it, especially
if the body it meet with be of the same, or like
conditions and affections with the former,
which it hath so lately forsaken. True it is
nevertheless, that they delivered this Do-
ctrine of the Transmigration of soules, very
obscurely, and wrapt up in Fables and Al-
legories, but their design herein was to make
men more mansuete and mild in their dispo-
sitions, by bringing them to put a greater
value upon the lives of Animals (for according
to this Doctrine, who would kill a Beast, when
for ought he knew, his Fathers soule might ani-
mate that Beast) and a greater degree of hor-
ror against shedding of Blood, that so having
devested them of all savageness and cruelty,
they might have a greater detestation against
Homicide, and preserving the peace and safe-
ty of Societies.

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Nor can the Stoicks be exempted from the same Error, of the Refusion of all souls into the Universal one; insomuch as it was their constant tenent, that the world was unimated by a certain fire, which they called Jupiter; that mens souls were particles derived from that fire, and should again be reunitid therento, some sooner, others later, but all in that general Conflagration of the Universe, when all things shall be (as they dreamt) sublimed into Jove again.

Now if we look narrowly into the busness, we shall discover even Aristotle himself to be in some measure guilty of the very same delusion, as well in respect of his Animal Heat, which, discoursing of the Generation of Animals (Lib. 2. Cap. 3.) he affirms to be respondent in some proportion to the Element of Celestial bodies, and where-with all things in the world are impregnated, as of his Intellectus Agens, which he teacheth to be diffus'd through the whole world, after the same manner as the light of the sun is diffus'd through the air, and so apply'd and conjoyned to the Intellectus Partiens, or proper soul of every man, as the external light is applied and conjoyned to the eye, and as the eye by the conjunction

of

An Apology for Spinoza.

of external light comes to see visible objects so doth the proper passive Intellect of every man, by the illustration of the general Active Intellect, come to understand intelligible Objects. Adding thereto, that the Intellective passive is separable, corruptible, and capable of utter dissolution; but the Active, inseparable, incorruptible, immortal. For, thus much may be collected from several places of his Books de Anima, and thence are those places explained by the best of his Greek interpreters, Alexander, and the best of the Arabians, Averrhoes, whose opinion of the Unity of the Intellect in all the world, is sufficiently known.

And thus much of the Philosophers of the former Classis, who though they from no affirm, do yet in reality, upon natural consequence, deny the Immortality of the Human soul, in that they all concur in that contradictory Error of the Refusal thereof into the Anima mundi. For, the proper Notion of Immortality, is, the eternal existence of a thing in the self same nature, and per se; and therefore, if a thing be deprived of its own proper nature, so, as to become invested with that of another, and to have no existence or subsistence, but what is dependent upon its union with that other, ta-

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which it is assimilated and identified; for my part, truly, I cannot understand how it can be said to be immortal without manifest contradiction. And whether it be not as gross an absurdity to say, that the soul of a man shall be for ever the same (i. e.) the soul of a man, and yet that it shall be identified, or made the same with the soul of the world; as to say, that such a thing shall be for ever the same, and not the same, is no hard matter to determine.

As for those of the latter, who in down-right terms denied the Immortality of the soul, they subdivide themselves into two different Sects, some having contended for the total destruction, or absolute Annihilation, and others for only the exsolution and dispersion of it into the matter or principles of which it was composed.

To the former of these Sects we may justly anumerate all such, who conceived the soul of man to be only a certain harmony, not of Musical sounds, but a *contemperation* of parts, humours, and qualities, and consequently, that as of Musical Harmony, nothing can remain after the sounds are vanished, so of the soul nothing can remain, after death hath once destroyed that harmonious Contemperation of parts, humours, and qualities,

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itself, from whence it did result. And this
privily was the opinion of not only those an-
tient Greek, Diogenes, Aristoxenus,
Aedras, and Asclepiades; all which are
thereof strongly accused by Plato. & in
Phaed. § and Aristotle (Lib. i. de Anima.
Cap. 5.) but also our Master Galen, who
was positive and plain in his definition of
the soul, to be a certain Temperament of Elec-
tricity Qualities. In the same life may we
also inscribe the names of all those who
imagining the soul to be nothing else but a
certain Act, or Form, or Quality insepar-
able (i.e. via certain special Modification
of Matter, have accordingly concluded, that
as the Figure, or special Mode of a thing
must inevitably vanish, immediately upon the
immutation or change of the thing figura, so
must the soul, being only a special Mode
of the Matter, necessarily vanish immedi-
ately upon the immutation of that Mode by
death. Which Origen, Justine, Theodo-
ret, and some other Fathers, understanding
to have been the Tenets of Aristotle, have
written sharp invectives against him, as an
assertor of the souls mortality, and thus to
justify, that if his Zealous Disciple, honest Mr.
Alexander Russel, were alive again, he would
never be able to discredit that their charge.

Anthology from Epicurus.

To the latter we are to refer all such, as hold the soul to be corporeal. For, as they would have it to be composed of material principles, so would they also have it to be, by death, again resolved into the same matter and principles. So that in their sense, the dissolution of the soul is no other, but the separation thereof into those very corporeal particles, of which it was composed. And this seems to be the true meaning of Democritus in Diogenes, when being interrogated whether he thought the soul to be immortal, he answered, with evident, sed ut omnia in sensu to me to be immortal, but no other beside them all things are immortal, i.e. as go the matter only, or component principles of it, which are incapable of Mortification. In this Catalogue we may worthily place Marcus Antoninus, in regard of his saying (lib. 4.) Animis hominum dispergi va
nitas, that mens souls are dispersed into
the air and Space, for the Animam homi-
nis magno pondere existi pertinere non
posse, & statim dispergi, quia non sicut
vili exitus liber, as also Democritus and
Epicurus, who equally conjectured, that the
soul was nothing but very Atoms, in such
a spatial number, in such a spatial position,
of a contemporaneum, and Death nothing but

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a discomposure of that determinate Conten-
ture, and a Resolution of the soul into sepa-
rated Atoms again; and therefore are they
always conjoined by the good Lactantius
(Lib. 3. cap. 7. &c lib. 9. cap. 8. &c 13.)
as confederates in the Doctrine of the Disso-
lution of Soule.

And thus, Sir, you may at once plainly
perceive the justice of my Attender of the
most, and most eminent of the antient Gre-
cian Philosophers, with the guilt of having
been (either obliquely or directly) Imput-
ers of the Soules Immortality; and the great
Injustice of their Sentence, who more parti-
cularly condemn Epicurus for the same
Error, when so many others were equally en-
titled with him therin.

As to the *SECOND*, viz. That man is
not obliged to honour, revere, and
worship God upon the motive of his Be-
neficence, or upon the account of ei-
ther Good or Evil expected from him;
but only out of a sentiment of the super-
lative Excellencies of his Nature, and
chiefly of his Immortality and Beati-
tude. I might well plead for him, that liv-
ing in a time, when there was scarce any
Religion, but foolish Idolatry, when there
were more Gods than Nations, yea, than

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- Temples; and when all Devotion was absurd and ridiculous Superstition: He seems rather to be honour'd, for that he came so near to the knowledge of the true God, then condemned for coming no nearer; rather to be admir'd for having so clear and genuine an apprehension of some of the Divine Attributes, when reproached for not comprehending them all. Especially, when I should not infringe the Law of charity, to doubt, that among us Christians, and even such as think themselves not a little vers'd in Theologie, there may be some, who, if they were put to give but an illustration of that mysterious point, the Divine Nature, would disown themselves to have us imperfect in Idea thereof, as EPICURUS did. But this excuse would be too general for his particular vindication, from the imputed crime of perfect Atheism; and therefore we shall fix only on such Reasons as are more properly accommodated to that purpose.

First, I dare say, his Piety, in deriding the incompetency of those Conceptions, that men in his time commonly entertained of the Supreme Essence (for they ascribed generally unto it, all the self same passions and affections), which they perceived to be in themselves, and so copied out an imperfect Divinity;

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vinity; by the infinitely disproportionate Original of Humanity) was much greater than his Impiety could be, in teaching that the Devil was of so manifestly excellent nature, as to be inability unconverted in any thing but it self, and for whom all sentiments whatever, besides those of its own eternal and complete Felicity; and consequently, that it made no sense reverenced and worshiped solely and purely for its own sake, without the least intimation of self-Reflections. For, as by the one, he judiciously attempted to subvert the false and unreasonableness Religion, or (rather) superstition, (as the worship of Bacchus, and other the Imaginary Deities, whereunto his Country adhered in his days (there being no better way to alienate men's minds from the veneration of False Gods, than to acquaint them with notions comprehending the Essential and Incommunicable attributes of the true God;) so by the other, he seems to have laid a very firm foundation for the true Religion, in that he would have the Right or Justice of all Divine worship to be founded wholly and entirely upon the Excellency of the Divine Nature. How far therefore he was from being a Professor and seminary of down-right Atheism, as some (whose real may well be thought

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thoughts to have been much greater than their knowledge, & so to that particular I have represented him to the World; every man, who hath but so much reason, as to understand, that Polytheism is the greatest Atheism, may easily judge, it had better

In the next place, I can hardly allow him to deserve the odious Epithete of, Most highly impious, which most misbrand him withall, upon the account of this latter Doctrine only, because I meet without a few, or contemptible Reasons, that incline my judgment to more moderation. In particular, you well know, Sir, how highly unreasonable it is, for any man to except, from EPICURUS, the knowledge of the true and legitimate worship of God, when that was by God himself prescribed only to the ancient Hebrews, and professed only by their posterity, and no other Nation in the World; if so, why should more be expected from Him, than from Plato, Zeno, Socrates, Aristotle, or any other of the elder Greek Philosophers, they being all equally begirted with Paganism? why should he be so severely scutene'd, and all the rest pass unquestioned, one and the same charge of invincible ignorance of the true Religion lying against each of them? Beside, Mr.

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mane Justice will hardly permit, that any man should suffer merely for wanting that, which, without supernatural means, was impossible for him to obtain; and he that will adventure to determine, whether or no, at the Tribunal of Divine Justice, any one shall be condemned simply upon that score, must have dived very deep into that bottomless gulf of Predestination.

For likewise know, that our Christian Doctors assign only Two causes, or Fundamental Considerations, why we should worship God: The one they teach to be the transcendent Excellency of the Nature of God, which singly, and without any respect to our own Vitality or Advantage, doth justly claim the highest veneration of our minds. The other, they admit to be the benefits we either have received, or (which is the stronger motive of the two) hope to receive at his hands. In Hermon, if any man be induced to rever, and worship the Divine Majesty, solely and singly upon the former motive, they say that he bears a Filial respect and affection to God; and if only by the latter, a mere servile or mercenary. Now though the servile or mercenary love of God, be not altogether to be disliked, in regard it is a kind of gratitude due unto us

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the best factor; yet I conceive no man will
dissent; but the final and free love is much
the nobler and more acceptable, insomuch
as it hath no other than the noblest of ob-
jects, God Himself. And sure I am (bord-
er) What the most Learned, most Rotton, and
most Religious of our School Divines, have
been earnest in their advise to us, to ex-
tract all selfness from our love of God, and
(as much as our frailties will admit of)
to fix all our affections entirely upon Him,
as being infinitely Good, and Amiable in
Himself. or dost thou also think godless
Moreover, you may remember, Sir, that
Cicero in his Book touching the nature of
the Gods, hath these very words, Quid est
deus ab omnibus voluntos dicat,
cum diligpsi non modo homines non ex-
isteant sed omniho nihil carent? Et quae
potio Picas et debetur, a quo nihil acced-
peris? Aut quid omnino; evias nullum
meritum sit; et deberi potest? By which
it is evident, that he would exclude all o-
ther inducements to Religion, besides a mere
mercenary and servile respect. And yet I
dare say, that you do not remember, that
ever you heard him accounted Insipions for
that opinion. Why therefore should EPI-
CURUS have such hard measure, as to

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be stigmatized with the name of Atheist, Impious wretch, Secretary of Hell, Enemy to all Religion, &c. and all for asserting, that man ought to be induc'd to a reverence and veneration of the Divine Majesty, only by the sentiments of a Filial Piety, not supernatural Piety, arising from Grace, justifying, and by which we are made the Sons of God, but a pure Natural one, such as Right Reason had suggested unto him? Certainly, of the two opinions, Epicurus's will appear much more rational, to an Equitable Arbitrator. Sundry other arguments there are, which might be advantageously alledged on our Authors behalfe, in this cause. But, considering that these seem already urged, are of importance enough, to evince the temerity of his censurers judgment, and that the prolixity of this discourse, hath long since, given you just occasion to question, by what right I call it a Letter; I perceive my self obliged in good manners, no longer to exercise your patience, then, while I briefly express my sentiments of the LAST Article of his Charges.

Which is, His asserting of Self-Homicide, in case of intolerable, and otherwise inevitable Calamity. This, as a Christian, I hold to be a bloody and detestable opinion, because expressly repugnant to the Law of God; and yet in the person of a mere Philosopher, I might, without being unreasonably Paradoxical, adven-

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adventure to dispute, whether it be so highly repugnant to the Law of Nature, as men have generally conceived. For,

First, if all the precepts of the Law of Nature concenter in this one point; Fly Evil, pursue Good; as those who have most laboured to conduct our understanding out of that intricate Labyrinth, the ambiguous Sence of the word, Law of Nature, have unanimously determined; certainly, that man assumes no very easie task, who undertakes to prove, that in case of insupportable distress, and where all other hopes of evading, or ending that misery (than which there can be no greater Evil) for a man to free himself from that extremity of Evil, and seek the Good of ease and quiet, by taking away his own life, which chiefly makes him subject to, and only sensible of that misery, is an infringement of the Law of Nature.

Again, if we understand Self-preservation (which all men allow to be the foundation of Natural Law in General) to be no other, but an innate Love, or Natural affection to Life, as a Good, when life ceaseth to be a Good, & degenerates into an Evil, as commonly it doth to men, in cruel torments of the body, or high discontent of mind, (the more desperate affliction of the two by much) & when all the stars of hope and comfort are set in the West of black desperation, why should not the force or obligation

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of that Law also, cause at the same time, & rather, why should not self-homicide, in such cases, be an absolute accomplishment of the Law of Self-preservation, it being manifest, that we are by the tenour of that Law, obliged to use such means, as conduce to our preservation from the greatest Evil; and as manifest, that to free ones self from misery, which cannot otherwise be avoided, but by breaking asunder the Ligaments of Life, is a pursuance of the only means we can discover, to be conducive to our end: that is, to preservation from more sufferings, and to Indolency, which in Death we propose to our selves as a Good?

But lest we seem to give any encouragement to that, which God, the Church, and the Civil Power so highly condemn; let us grant, that Self-murder, in whatsoever case, is a violation of the Law of Nature, and yet we shall have one consideration left, that seems strong enough to restrain the violence of their malice, who exclaim against EPICURUS, as the grand abettor of self-assassination; and that is, that he was not single, nor most vehement in the justification of it. For, if we look upon the Doctrine of other Philosophers, we shall soon perceive, that the Stoicks generally, not only approved thereof, but strictly enjoined men to embrace death voluntarily, and from their

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their own hands; This Cicero doth (Lib. de Legibus) implicitly allow of it in these words, Eam damnandum esse censio qui seipsum interficit, si neque ex decreto Civitatis fecerit, neque alio Fortune casu intolerabili in evitabilis coactus, neque obrutus ulli pauperis, miserisq; vita ignominia; and expressly confirming it (in 2. Tusculan.) in these, Eam in vita servandam legem quae in Graecorum conviviis observetur. Aut bibat, aut abeat; quoniam ut oportet aliquis fruatur pariter cum aliis voluptate potandi, aut ne sobrius in violentiam violenterorum incidat, ante discedat; sic iniurias Fortunæ quas ferre nequeas, defugiendo relinquis. And if their Practice, we shall soon find many of them to have laid violent hands upon themselves, than that of insupportable and inevitable Calamity, to which only EPICURUS's precept is limited; while He, leaving others to become examples of that Rule, with admirable patience, and invincible magnanimity, endured the tortures of the Stone in the Bladder, and other most excruciating Diseases, for many years together, and awaited, till extreme old age gently put out the Taper of his life. Thus Zeno, a man of the most spotless fame of any Philosopher among the

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the Antients, having by a fall bruised one of his fingers against the ground, and interpreting that to be a summons of him to the earth, went presently home and hanged himself, and was therefore by Diogenes Laertius honoured with this Elogie; *Mirâ felicitate vir, qui incolumis, integer, sine morbo è vivis excessit.* Thus Demosthenes, you know, to prevent his being beholding to any man but himself, either for his life or death; drank mortal poison out of his own Quill, which had given him immortality long before. Thus also Democles, to prevent his pollution, by the unnatural heat of a certain lustful Greek Tyrant, who attempted to force him, leaped into a Furnace of boyling Water. And thus Cleanthes, Chrysippus, and Empedocles, all brake open the Gates of Death, and forced themselves into the other World. To these you may please to adde the memorable Examples of that Prince of Roman wisdom (as Lactantius calls him) Cato, who with his own hands and sword, opened a floodgate in his Bowels, to let his life flow forth, having all the night before prepared himself to fall boldly, with the Lecture of Plato's Discourse, of the Immortality of the soul; and of the famous Cleombrotus, who, upon no other incitement, but Plato's rea-

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sous in the same Discourse, threw himself from a precipice, as if he meant instantly to experiment the truth of what he had newly read; and though Aristotle would not admit, that he did it upon any other account, but that of Pusillanimity and Fear, yet Saint Augustine (De Civit. Dei, Lib. 1. cap. 22.) ascribes it altogether unto Greatness of mind, his words being these; When via Calamity urged him, no Crime, either true or imputed, nothing but greatness of mind moved him to embrace death, and dissolve the sweet bonds of life. And Lactantius, who was severe enough in his censure, both of the Act, and the Book that occasion'd it, says of him; Præcipitem se dedit nullam aliam ob eausam nisi quod Platonis credidit.

SIR,

By this time you are satisfied, both of the injuries done to the memory of the Temperate, Good, and Pious E P I C U R U S, and of my willingness and devoir to redress them. And my dull and unequal Apology for him being now ended, I should begin another for my self, in that I have rather disturbed, than either delighted or informed you. But this being much the greater difficulty

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difficulty of the two, I think it safer for me, to put my self upon your mercy for an absolute forgiveness, than to trust to my own wit, to make excuses for my failings herein, especially, since your patience cannot but be already overcome by the seditioness of

Your very Humble Servant,

W. CHARLETON.

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EPICURUS'S MORALS.

CHAPTER I.

Introduction.

IF Action be the end of Speculation, and the knowledge of Nature, but the way that leads Man to the knowledge of himself; and the best of mans knowledge be that which teacheth him how to order his Mind, and regulate his Actions, so as that he may assuredly attain to the highest degree of Happiness, of which his Nature is capable, during life; then certainly, must ETHICKS OR MORAL PHILOSOPHY be the noblest part of all Human Learning, the Crown and perfection of all our studies; insomuch as it is that alone, which both gives us the infallible Tokenes, by which we may know what is truly the *summum Bonum* of life, and prescribes us most plain

Esse illius Philosophi orationem profici instrumentum, que Affectus malum in Homine curat; quia, ut Medicinae uis nullus est, nisi Corpus morbos abigit; sic nec Philosophiz, nisi malum ex Animo pelletur; inquit *Sokrates* in sermon. 8.

¶ Epicurus his *Morals.*

plain and certain Rules for the Acquisition
of it.

II.

By *Ethicks*, or *Morals*, we understand that part of Philosophy, which hath for its proper Object the End, or Final and main scope of Mans Life; containing certain Directions and Precepts, for the right information of his Understanding, and (consequently) the conduct of his Will, in the Election of real Good, and Avoidance of Evil, in order to his attaining the true End of his life, the Supreme Good, or Felicity.

III.

That the End of Man's Life is *Felicity*; all men most readily allow: and, if you ask him, no man will deny, that he aims at that End. But, seeing it is too certain, that most men miss of that end; it cannot be doubted, that the Frustration of their Hopes and Endeavours doth of necessity proceed from hence: either that they do not propose to themselves that Felicity, which they ought; or do not use such Means, or pursue such Courses, as do conduce thereunto.

IV.

We cannot but observe, that there are Myriads of men, who though their propitious Fortunes have abundantly accommodated them with all things necessary for the uses

usest of life; (for, their Exchequers overflow with treasure, their bodies enjoy perfect health and vigour, their titles swell with attributes of honour, their fair, chaste, and fruitful Wives furnish them with Troops of beautiful and ingenious Children, in a word, they possess all things, that all that are below them usually measure happiness by;) do yet live full of Anxiety and Complainings, having their minds perpetually on the rack of cares, sollicitude, and fears: so as they cannot but confess, that they lead lives truly miserable. Considering this, we may from thence safely conclude, that these men are wholly ignorant wherein true Felicity doth consist, and whence or how it is to be attained: and therefore, the heart of every such person may be fitly compared to a Vessel, which being in some part full of holes, can never be filled; and in other parts deeply imbued with some evil tincture, doth deprave and corrupt the most wholesome and cordial Liquor that is poured into it.

V.

Well worth our labour, therefore, is it, by the help of this Philosophy (which teacheth the nature of, and way unto Felicity) to cleanse and make sound that Vessel, the Heart of Man; that so it may be easily filled with a few things, and find a sweet-

sweetness and comfort in every the smallest thing that occurs unto it. And to this (e)

(a) Atqui, non cum vacare
sit, Philosophandum est omnia
alia negligenda sunt, ut hinc af-
fideamus; cui nullum tempus
facit, magnum est, etiamque a
pueris usque ad longissimos
humani aevi terminos vita pro-
tenditur. Seneca, Epist. 59. vide
etiam Galenum de affect. digni-
tatem. & vit. and. cap. 2. itemque,
Epist. 111, in Enchir. lib. 3. c. 15.

Philosophy we are
to addicte our selves
betimes, as soon as
possible, even this
very day; not to de-
fer it so much as till
to morrow: because
it highly concerns us
to live happily to
day; and Folly hath this evil always annexed
unto it, that it doth always begin to live,
or purpose to begin to live, but in the mean
time never doth live.

V I.

Once we were, twice we cannot be Born;
and our Age must have a period; but when

(b) Marcus Antonius [οὐδὲ βα-
σιλεὺς φιλοσοφάτετο] no-
tans procrastinationem studii
& conatus ad optima entendi,
inquit. Μᾶλλον τὸ θίαντος αὐτοῦ
διεγέρει γένεθλιον, οὐ σημεῖον.
De seipso lib. 3. Scil. 4. (c) Ille
potens sui Letuus, viget, cui li-
cet in diem dixisse, Vixi. Flac-
cian. Carmin. lib. 3. ad. 29. (d)
Maxima iactura vice dilatio est.
Ille primum quemque extrahit
diem illa artipit presentia, dum
ulteriora promittit; &c. Senec.
de brevit. vit. cap. 9.

we know not. If so,
is it prudence, or
folly in thee O man!
when thou hast not
to morrow in thy
power, to (b) pro-
crastinate thy making
thy self happy
till the Future, and
in the mean time
lose the opportunity
of the present, of
which

which daily thou art certain? By such delay is it that the Lives of most men are lost, and hasten death, that every one (*s.*) dies in the Immaturity, if not the beginning of his Designs. Every man so goes out of the World as if he had but newly entered into it: and therefore (*d.*) old men may justly be affirmed, not to have survived the ravnish and folly of their Infancy: because trifling away their years in busyness that concerns them not, they have scarce known that they have lived at all; and in the chief Harvest of life, they have never reaped the Fruits of it. batol yndr. 1. agnisi dñi 10
nov 11. andisive. VII.

Let us therefore, endeavour so to live, as that we need not repent us of our time past: and so enjoy the present day, as if we were nothing concerned in To-morrow: For, He arriveth most suddenly at To-morrow; who doth, the least need, or desire it: and an hour cometh most grateful to him, who had the least expectation of it. Since it is troublesome, always to begin to live: let us make every moment the total sum of life; as if no part of it remained behind. The life of a Fool is unpleasant, and full of Fears, and depends wholly upon the Future: but

Omnem crade diem
hui dilixisse super-
mum: Genu superve-
riter, quz non sperabius
hora. Hor. lib. 1. Epist. 4.

it becomes us so to order our Minds and Actions, as that ours may be pleasant, secure, and fixt in the safety of the present.

VIII.

Certainly, the way, at length, to avoid Foolishness, is for a man to advance himself into the Arsenal, or Fortress of Wise men, from whence, as from a Watch-Tower, he may look down upon the swarms of other men, led, by their passions, wandering up and down in a Wilderness of Errors; and incessantly afflicting themselves in the pursuit of such things, which, being found, increase their miserable Deviations. If you account it a pleasure, to stand upon a safe Rock, and behold Mariners at Sea distractedly striving with a Tempest; or, from a secure Castle to look upon two Armies maintaining a long and fierce Battail: assuredly, it must be much more delightful, from the serene Tower of Wisdom, to contemplate the Tumults, Hurries, and Contentions of the foolish Multitude below. Not that it is delightful, to see others afflicted with Evils; but, to see our selves not to be involved in those Evils.

IX.

Now that we may, to the utmost of our power, afford assistance to those, who desire

to

to arive at this height of Wisdom ; we conceive our selves obliged, in humanity, so to collect and compile such Notions, concerning these things, which our frequent Meditations have brought unto our mind : that we may discourse first of *Felicity*, which is Mans Chiefest Good ; and afterward, of such Means, as certainly conduce to the Creation and Conservation thereof, and which, indeed, are no other but the *Vertues* themselves.

CHAP. II.

Of Felicity, or the Supreme Good ; as far as Man is capable thereof.

Felicity is therefore called the *End*, *Extreme*, and *Highest* of Goods, because there are some things named Goods, which invite the Appetite to prosecute them immediately for themselves ; and others again which are desireable mediately or in relation to others, that are Superior : but, as for Felicity, it is that Good, to which all other Goods ought to be referred, and cannot it self be referred to any thing.

**Nor doth it hinder us since Felicity and
Beauty, or a Blissful Life, are one and the
same; that it is sometimes called the End of a bliss-
ful life: for in that we
speak the phrase of the
Gentiles, which accept
the End of a blissful life, and a blissful life
it self, for the very same thing; not that we
thereby intend, that there is any further End,
to which a blissful life may be conceived
referrible.**

III.

This premised, it behoves us to distinguish Felicity into *supreme*, viz. that which is incapable of intention and remission, or Floudsand Ebbes of pleasure: and *subalterne* or *Gradual*, viz. such as is subject to Addition and Detraction, or Increase and Decrease of pleasure.

IV.

The Former, we conceive to be a certain State, than which none can be thought more sweet, more desireable, more perfect; wherein there is no Evil to be feared, no Good, which is not fully enjoyed; wherein is nothing to which the Will can have an inclination, and may not possess it; finally, which

which is more Constant than ever to be lost.

V.

The *Later*, we understand to be a certain State, in which a man may be as Happy as the *Frailty* of his Nature will permit ; or such, wherein he may enjoy very much of necessary Goods, and suffer very little of Evils : and consequently, wherein He may spend his days pleasantly, calmly, and permanently, so far forth as the Condition of his Country, Society, Course of life, Constitution, Age, and other Circumstances shall give leave.

VI.

Nor is it without good Reason, that we thus Distinguish, and define Felicity. Because, though it be manifest, that the Former, or *Supreme* Felicity is competent only to the *Divine Nature* : yet there have been some, * who thinking over-highly of themselves, and speaking magnificently of their own Wisdom, have so far dared to promise and arrogate to themselves this perfect Felicity, as to affirm themselves to be, in that respect, equal to God, and account the expression modest, when they said they were inferior only to Jupiter himself.

VII.

These, truly, may be judged to have been forgetful both of the Mortality and Imbecility of their Nature; when all that are conscious or mindful of either, must soon acknowledge, that Men are capable only of the Latter, or imperfect Felicity: and that Wisdom doth perform a very high work upon a man, if, while most others remain surrounded with diverse Miseries, it advance him to such a condition, as renders him the least miserable of all men; or, if, among those various Degrees of miseries, to which his Birth hath made him obnoxious, it place him in such a state, wherein he may have the least share of those miseries. For, to be happy, in this life, it is sufficient to be exempted from those miseries, by which one might have been afflicted: and in the mean time, to enjoy such Goods, as that the condition of our Nature is not capable of greater.

VIII.

And this, seriously, is the Reason, why we conceive; that a Wise man, though he be deprived of the two best of his Senses, his Sight and Hearing, may yet partake of a happy life: forasmuch as he may nevertheless continue in the fruition of such and so many Goods, as his maimed nature is capable

pable of; and want those Evils, if not of his Body, yet at least of his mind, which might otherwise have vexed him.

IX.

Nay upon the same ground we further profess, that a Wise man may be Tormented most cruelly, and yet continue the possession of his Happiness. For, still he may enjoy, not that Divine, but this Humane Felicity; since in a Wise man it is always as the Condition of the present time will permit him to make it.

X.

We confess, that in the midst of his torments, he cannot but be sensible of pains; and may sometimes, by the violence of them, be forced to groan and roar out: but, in the mean while, because calmly submitting to the necessity of his suffering them, he doth not exasperate or encrease his pains, either by his Impatience, or Desperation, but rather mitigates and lessens them, by as great Constancy of mind, as his generous resolutions can fortifie him withal: in that respect, doubtless, he must be much more happy, than if he had, with pusillanimity, fear, reluctance, and despair, entertained them; or than another man, who being under the same torments, doth not endure them with equal courage and constancy, as not having

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the like encouragements and supplies from Wisdom : (which adfers, at least, Innocence of life, and security of Conscience) by which those torments might be lightned.

XI.

Wherefore, there is no reason neither, why any man should, by way of Cavil, object unto us ; that according to this Assertion, Phalaris Bull, and a bed of Roses must be all one to us ; and consequently, that a Wise man ought, while he is in the flames of that Brazen Engine of torture, to smile, and cry out, *O how pleasant this is ! O how much am I above these torments ! how little do I fear care for them !* Forasmuch as we do not gainsay, but there are some things, which a Wise man had rather should happen to him, as the health of his Body, exemption from all incommodity, and freedom of his Mind, that so he might solace himself in the contemplation of his Goods : and other things, which though he would not, they should befall him ; yet when they do befall him, he doth not only constantly and bravely endure, but also welcomes and commends them, insomuch as they give him an opportunity to experiment and graduate his Virtue, and with internal alacrity, to exclaim, *I am turned, but not overcome ; why should it not be more*

more desirable, not to have the fire overcome my Conſtancy, than not to have it conſume my Body? And this we ſay, in regard it is not to be expected, but that a Wiſe man may alſo be obnoxious, as to the pains of Diseases, ſo alſo to the tortures of Tyrants: though he neither incur those, nor provoke them willingly, ſo far forth as he can; with ſafety of his Virtues, avoid it.

CHAP. III.

That pleasure (without which there is no Notion of Felicity) is a Good, of its own Nature.

Forasmuch as it's sweet, or pleasant, for a man to live without pain; and ſweet, or pleasant likewife, to enjoy Good things and be recreated by them: it is an evident truth, that without both these ſweetneſſes or Pleaſures, or one of them at leaſt, Felicity cannot be understood (for, we accept Pleaſure, Suavity, Jucundity, and other Terms of the like importance; for one and the ſame thing;) though there have not wanted ſome, who with great pomp and ostentation, have ſo diſcourſed of Pleaſure, as if it were a certain Evil, in its own nature; and upon

consequence, concluded it to be not only inconsistent with, but wholly Alien from wisdom and Happiness. And therefore, before we come to enquire, whether *Felicity doth consist in pleasure*, or not; requisite it is, that we remonstrate, that *Pleasure is a real good, in it self*; and that its Contrary, *Pain, is a real Evil, in it self.*

II.

Since that is Good, which helpeth, which pleaseth, which is amiable and inviting to the Appetite; and on the contrary, that is Evil, which harmeth, which displeaseth, which is ungrateful, and so inciteth the Appetite to an odium and aversion: certainly there is nothing, which doth more please, more delight, is more amiable, more desirable, than Pleasures; and on the contrary, nothing that doth more incommod, more offend, is more to be abhorred and avoided, than pain: Wherefore, Pleasure seems to be not only a Good, but also the Essential Reason, or very Root of Good; insomuch as it is that very, and only thing, for whose sake, or in respect whereof an object is Good or Desirable; as on the reverse; pain seems to be not only an Evil in it self, but also the Formal Reason, or very Root of Evil; insomuch as it is that alone, in respect whereof any thing is Evil or Hateful. For, though

we sometimes avoid Pleasure; yet it is not the pleasure it self which we avoid, but some pain that is annexed unto it, or impendent on it: as likewise if we sometimes court and pursue a pain, it is not the pain it self, that we pursue, but some pleasure that is conjoyned unto it.

III.

To speak more expreſſly; No man doth neglect, hate, or decline pleasure, as it is pleasure, but, because usually very great pains follow and overtake ſuch, who know not to follow Pleasure with Reason and Moderation; nor is there any man, that loves, desires, and pursues Pain, ſimply as it is pain; but because he expects ſome very great pleasure to accrue to him thereupon; and ſuch frequently may be the conſtitution of the time, as that he hath no other way that leads him to the pleasure he aims at, but what lies in the rough tract of Labour and Pain.

IV.

To instance in very ſmall things; who is there among us, that undertakes and endures any laborious exercise of the body, unleſt to the end, that he may thereby acquire ſome commodity or benefit? And who can justly reprehend him, who desires and endeavours to enjoy that pleasure, upon

which nothing of trouble or discommodity doth attend? Or him, who endeavours to eschew that Pain, by which no Pleasure can be procured? But, we may justly accuse, and esteem those persons worthy of contempt, who being intricated and corrupted with the blandishments of present Pleasures, do not foresee nor provide against those pains and troubles, that must ensue, as being inevitably impendent upon all heads that are blinded with cupidities. The like blame is due also to those who forsake their stations, and desert the duties of their places and offices, out of a certain softness and weakness of Mind, *i.e.* of Fear, of Labour, and Pains.

V.

Now, of these things, the *Distinction* is easie and expedite. For, in times of freedom, when all lies open to the arbitrary disposition of our own choice, so that there is no impediment, but we may do that which is most pleasing to us; in such case, it is lawful for us to pursue and embrace all pleasure, and avoid all pain. But, such frequently may be the constitution of the times, as that pleasures are rather to be repudiated, and labours and troubles not to be refused.

VI. So,

VI.

So, though we esteem all pleasures to be a real good, and all pain to be a real evil; yet we do not therefore affirm, that we ought, at all times, to pursue that, and avoid this. For, it is good for us, to sustain some pains, that we may afterward enjoy more abundant pleasures; and expedient to abstain from some pleasures, that we may not by them incur more grievous pains.

VII.

Hence, as from a Fountain, was it, that dis-
coursing of the true *Criteria*, or judges of
good and evil, we deduced several *Canons*,
or *Rules*, for the guidance and regulation of
our Affections, or Passions: accounting Plea-
sure and Pain, for the most certain Criterion
of Election and Aversion. And this upon
very good reason; seeing that from the
Benefit or Harm that redounds unto us from
the fruition of them; all the Objects of our
Affections or Passions ought to be judged
Good or Evil; and that we sometimes use
Good as Evil, and other times Evil as
Good.

VIII.

From these Considerations, therefore
(that we may inculcate the matter) we con-
clude, that no pleasure is of it self Evil;

but some things there are, which albeit they afford some pleasures , yet they are such, as occasion and induce pains much greater than themselves. Whereto , by way of Consequence, we superadde this; if any one pleasure could be so collected into it self, or sequestred from all dross, as that it should neither comprehend in it, nor leave behind it any the least measure of pain : assuredly, by that Collection and simplicity, it would become no less perfect and absolute, than are the chiefest Works of Nature; and so pleasures could have no Difference either of Qualities or Degrees among themselves, but would all be equally desirable.

IX.

Further, if those very things, which are the Efficients of Pleasures to *Luxurions* men, were such, as that they could render them superior to the terrors of Meteors, Earthquakes, Thunder, and Lightning, Eclipses, and other the like accidents, caused by bodies superterrestrial ; and free them from the base fears of pains and death : truly, we could find nothing in them to be reprehended ; insomuch as they would be wholly filled with Pleasures, and could not, in the least, know any thing of Pain , of Trouble, of Sickness, i.e. of Evil.

CHAP,

CHAP. IV.

That Felicity doth consist Generally in Pleasure.

WE are now come to our main purpose, viz. *That Felicity is rooted in Pleasure*; and therefore, we are first to demonstrate it to be so in the *General*, that we may afterward the more securely determine in what *Pleasure* it doth consist in *Special*.

I.L.

In the *General*, pleasure seems to be as the beginning, so also the end of a happy life; forasmuch as we deprehend it to be the *first Good*, and *Congenite* to our Nature, and to all other Animals whatever; and that very and only thing, according to which we direct our selves, in the *Election* and *Rejection* of any Object whatever, and define it to be *Good* or *Evil*.

III.

That *Pleasure* is the *First Good*, and *Congenial*, or, as Philosophers speak, the *First Aptum* and *Accommodatum* to Nature, may be demonstrated from hence; that every Animal, as soon as born, doth affect, pursue, and delight in *Pleasure*; as its *chiefest Good*:

Good: and on the contrary, doth hate, avoid, and to the utmost of its power, repel Pain, as its Chiefest Evil; provided that the sense of the Animal be not depraved, but its Nature remain in its primitive perfection, so as to enable it to judg truly.

IV.

This considered, there is no further need of any Reasoning, or Disputation to evince, why Pleasure is to be desired, and pain to be avoided; since the sense alone doth evidently demonstrate it, no less than it doth that Fire is hot, that Snow is white, that Honey is sweet: and sufficient it is for us only to observe it. For, if when we have taken away from man all his senses, the Remainder must be nothing; necessary it is, that what is according to Nature, what against Nature, must be judged by Nature it self: and consequently, that Pleasure is to be desired for it self, and pain to be avoided for it self. For, what perceives, or what judges, that it may either pursue, or avoid any thing, beside pleasure and pain?

V.

That Pleasure is also the *Last* or *Highest* of Goods, or the end of all desiderable things, may be soon understood even from hence; that it is Pleasure alone, for which we desire all other things: and never desire Pleasure for

for any thing but it self. For, other things we may desire, to the end we may be affected or delighted with Pleasure: but no man did ever require a reason, why we would be affected and delighted therewith; truly, no more, than for what Cause, or to what End we should desire to be happy. Seeing that Pleasure and Felicity ought to be reputed as in the same degree, so also for one and the same thing: and consequently, for the end, Extreme, or Supreme of Goods, to which all other things subordinately conduce, and which is it self subordinate or referrible to nothing.

VI.

The same may be Confirmed from hence; that (as we have premonished) Felicity cannot be understood, unless it be conceived to be a certain state wherein a man may live most sweetly, most pleasantly, i. e. in the greatest Pleasure, of which his Nature is capable. For, but take away from life that sweetness, that jucundity; and pray, what Notion of Felicity can remain? we say of Felicity; not only such as we termed Divine, but also that, which we account Humane, and which is not otherwise capable of more and less, or of Intension and Remission, than only as it may admit of more and less of Pleasure.

VII. That

VII.

That we may further manifest this Truth, by a Comparation of Pleasure with pain; let us suppose a man to enjoy many, great, and lasting pleasures both in mind and body; no pain molesting him in the present, nor threatening him in the future: and then what state can be imagined more desireable, more happy than this? For, in him, who is thus affected, there must be a Constancy or firmness of Mind, fearing neither Death, nor Pain; because Death is insensible of any pain, and in life, if pain be long, it must be light, if great, it cannot be long; so that the Brevity is a comfort against the violence thereof, and the Lévity against Diurnity. When a man arrives at such a Condition, as that he doth not tremble at the thought of Divinity, nor suffer the present pleasures to slip away unenjoy'd, while his mind is taken up either with the memory of past Goods, or expectation of future; and doth every day solace himself with the assiduous recor-dation of them: what greater Good is there, that can be added to encrease the Happiness of this mans Condition?

VIII.

Suppose again, on the other side, that a man is afflicted with as great anguish of Mind, and violent pains of Body, as his na-ture

ture can receive; that he hath lost all probability, all hopes of any the least Extenuation of his Miseries; and that his tempestuous thoughts cannot lay hold of any comfort in the apprehension of any pleasure, past, present, or expected: and what can be imagined more wretched, more miserable than this man?

IX.

If, therefore, a life surrounded with pains, be most chiefly to be avoided: seriously, the Highest Evil, is to live in pain; and of necessary consequence, *The Highest Good is to live in Pleasure*. Nor, indeed, hath the mind of Man any other point, wherein, as in the Centre and Period of all his hopes and desires, he may consist, but only Pleasure. And all Diseases, Langours and Distempers are referred to pain, nor is there any thing beside pain, that can invade Nature in her Throne, eject her from it, or dissolve her.

CHAP.

CHAP. V.

*That Pleasure, wherein Felicity doth consist, is
the Indolency of the Body, and Tranquillity
of Mind.*

Forasmuch as there are *Two* kinds of Pleasures, *viz.* *One*, that may be considered as dependent upon, or radicated in *Quiet*; and so is nothing else but a constant Placability, Calmness, and Vacuity or Immunity from all perturbation and dolour: and *Another*, that may be considered as resident in *Motion*; and so consisteth only in a certain sweet affectation, or pleasant titillation of the sense, as may be exemplified in joy, hilarity, eating and drinking when we are hungry and thirsty, the pleasure of all which doth arise only from a pleasant motion in the Organs: therefore is it necessary for us to determine, *Whether Felicity doth consist in both these Kinds of Pleasures conjoyned; or in one of them alone; and in which of the Two.*

II.

Accordingly, therefore, we affirm; that the Pleasure, wherein Felicity doth consist, is only the Former, *i.e.* in the stable kind of pleasure: and so can be no other, *but* *she*

*the Indolency of Body, and Tranquillity of
the Mind.*

III. *Liberality and Frugality*

And, therefore, when we say; that Pleasure in the General is the end of a happy life, or the Chiefest Good; we are very far from understanding those Pleasures, which are so much admired, courted and pursued by men wallowing in Luxury, or any other pleasures that are placed in the mere motion or action of Fruition, whereby, the sense is pleasantly tickled; as some, either out of Ignorance of the right, or dissent of opinion, or prejudice and Evil will against us, have wrongfully expounded our words: but only this (the importance of the matter will excuse our repetition of it) Not to be pained in Body, nor perturbed in Mind.

IV. *Reason, Sobriety and
Moderation*

For , it is not perpetual Feastings and Drinkings; it is not the love of, and Familiarity with beautiful boys and women; it is not the Delicacies of rare Fishes, sweet meats, rich Wines, nor any other Dainties of the Table, that can make a Happy life; But, it is Reason, with Sobriety, and consequently a serene Mind; investigating the Causes, why this Object is to be Elected, and that to be Rejected; and chasing away those.

those vain, superstitious and deluding opinions, which would occasion very great disquiet in the mind.

V.

Now, that you may the more clearly understand, why we affirm this kind of pleasure alone to be the end of life, or chiefest good; be pleased to observe, that Nature doth not tend to any other pleasure, primarily, or as to her principal scope, but only to what is *stable*; which follows upon the remove of all pain and Molestation. For she doth not propose to her self the Moveable pleasure, as the end at which she aims; but hath provided it only as the means conduicible to that end, that it might be as it were a Condiment to sweeten that Natural operation which is necessary to the Eradication of all Pain and Molestation. For instance; seeing that Hunger and Thirst are things troublesome and incommodious, in the present, to an Animal; the Primary End of Nature, is to constitute the Animal in that state, in which it may be free from that trouble and offence: and because that cannot be effected, but by Eating and Drinking; therefore hath she wisely provided, that the Action of Eating and Drinking should be accompanied with a certain pleasantness and jucundity, that so the Animal might be thereby invited

invited the more willingly and readily to perform that necessary action.

VI.

Most men, indeed, living præposterously, and being carried away with inconsideration and intemperance, propose to themselves, as the summary of their desires, and accomplishment of all their Hopes, that meaner Pleasure, which depends upon Motion: but, Wisdom being called to our assistance, doth soon reduce all Pleasures to Order and Decorum; and teacheth us that we are not to look upon any Pleasure, as the perfection and End of our lives, but what Nature her self hath ordained for that End, and which can be no other, but what we have declared. For while Nature is our Guide, whatever we do, must conduce only to this; that we may not be pained in body, nor perturbed in mind: and when we have once attained to that state, all the Tempests of our mind cease, and all our Hopes and Desires are lost in Fruition, and there can be nothing beyond it, to which to aspire, in order to the Complement of our Happiness. For, we then want Pleasure, when the absence of it doth produce pain in us: but, when we are not pained, then do we want no Pleasure.

VII.

Hence comes it, that the Sum or Height of all Pleasures doth consist only in the Amotion of all Pains, or in that state which follows upon that Amotion: for, wherever Pleasure is, there can be nothing of pain, of anxiety. And hereupon it follows also, that the highest Pleasure terminated in the privation of pain, may indeed be varied and distinguished; but can never be augmented or amplified; for, Nature so long as she hath taken away all pain, doth encrease pleasure; but, all pain being removed, she suffers not pleasure to be encreased in Magnitude, but only admits some certain Varieties thereof, that are not then at all necessary, as being such, that are not comparated to this, that we may not be pained.

VIII.

Moreover, from hence it appears, that those men insult without cause, who accuse us, not to account this, *To want all Pain*, to be something consisting in the middle betwixt pain and pleasure: but, so to confound it with the other member of the Division, as to make it not only a Pleasure, but even the *Highest of all Pleasures*. For, because, when we are Exempted from pain, we join in that very Exemption and Vacuity from all

all molestation, and every thing wherein we joy is a pleasure; as every thing where-with we are offended, is a pain: therefore is the privation of all pain, by us, rightly named a Pleasure. For, as when Hunger and Thirst are expelled with meat and drink; that very Expulsion of the trouble of them doth adser the Consequution of a pleasure: so, in every thing else, the very Amotion of pain causeth the succession of pleasure.

IX.

Hence also may we desume a convincing reply to those who urge against us, that there is no Reason, why this Middle state of Indolency should be esteemed rather a pleasure than a pain. For, upon the detraction of pleasure, discontent doth not presently ensue, unless perhaps some pain immediately succeed into the room of that former pleasure: but, on the contrary, we always conceive a joy upon the loss of any pain, though none of those pleasures succeed, which consist in the delightful affection of the Sense. By which we may clearly understand, how great a pleasure it is, *Not to be in Pain*: whereof if any man doubt, let him ask of those, who are infested with those sharp pains of the Gout, Tooth-ach, or any other acute disease.

X.

There are also, who deride this our opinion; Objecting, that this pleasure of Indolency, is like the condition of a sleeping man,

* Demetrius Cydonius, sermonem de Epicuri Commilitonibus instituens, homines notatissimae apud eum: *Slothful and Unactive* spirits. But, these consider not, that this Indolent constitution is so far from being a mere

Torpor, or sluggish-

ness, as that it is the only state, wherein we can perform all the actions of life vigorously and cheerfully. And, as we would not have the life of a wise man to be like a Torrent or rapid River; so would we not have it to be like a standing and dead Pool: but rather as a clear stream sliding on in a constant silence and gentleness. Wherefore we contend; that a Wise mans pleasure is not that which is Dull, Heavy, and Unactive; but that which Reason makes Constant, Firm, and Sprightly unto him.

XI.

But, to leave these our Opponents, and return to our Theme; there are two good things, of which our Highest Good, or chiefest Felicity doth consist; viz. *To have the Mind free from perturbation, and the Body free from pain*; and so, that these goods

be

be full, and above the capacity of Encrease. For, how can that which is full be encreas-ed? If the Body be immune from all pain, what addition can be made to that Indolen-cy? If the Mind be constantly serene and Imperturbed, what Addition can be made to that Tranquillity? Nor do those External Blandishments of the Sense, in any measure augment; but only serve to condite and sweeten this state of Highest Felicity: for, that Consummate Good of Humane Nature, is contented with only the peace of mind, and quiet of body.

CHAP. VI.

Of the means to procure this Felicity.

Now seeing that this Tranquillity of mind, and Indolency of Body, do constitute the chief Felicity of man; no-thing can more concern us, than to consider those things, which conduce to the attain-ment and conservation thereof: insomuch as while we have that, we have all things; and while we want it, all we do is to attain it, though (for the Causes aforesaid) we sel-dom do attain it.

In the first place, therefore, we are to reason of Felicity, no otherwise than of Health; it being manifest, that that state, in which the mind is free from perturbation, and the body from pain, is nothing else, but the perfect Health of the whole man; and naturally consequent thereupon, that as in the body, so also in the mind, those things which produce and conserve Health, are the very same with those, which either prevent the Generation of Diseases, or cure and expel them when they are generated.

III.

As for the Diseases of the Body; since the excellent Art of Medicine is ordained as well for the prevention, as Cure of them; leaving the præscription of both præservative and curative remedies to the learned professors of that Art, we shall sufficiently discharge our present duty, if we admonish you of only two things. The one is, that we always observe Temperance, and live soberly and continently, to the end that we may avert all diseases, or at least make them more gentle and more easily curable; since for the most part, the Harvest of Diseases doth arise from the seeds of Intemperance and Incontinence. The other, that when we are invaded with Diseases, we instantly

stantly have recourse to Fortitude ; that so we may both endure them with Constancy of Mind, and not exasperate them by impatience, and comfort our selves with this, that if our pain be great, it must be short ; if long, light.

IV.

And as for the Diseases of the Mind, against them Philosophy is provided of Remedies ; being, in that respect, justly accounted the Physick of the Mind : but it is not with equal facility consulted, nor applied by those who are sick in Mind. And this, because we judge of the Diseases of the body, by the Mind : but the diseases of the Mind we neither feel in the body, nor know or judge of them as we ought ; because that, whereby we should judge, is distempered.

V.

Hence it appears, that the Diseases of the Mind are more grievous and dangerous than those of the Body : as among Diseases Corporeal, those are most dangerous, which deprive us of our senses ; such are the Apoplexy, Letargy, Phrensie, &c. Again, that the Diseases of the Mind are more pernicious than those of the Body, is manifest from the same reason, which demonstrateth that the Pleasures of the mind are much better

better than those of the Body, which is this, that we feel in the body nothing but what is present, but in our mind we are sensible of also what is past, and what's to come. For, as the Anxiety of the mind arising by consent from the pains of the body, may be very much aggravated, if we have possessed our selves with a conceit, that some Eternal and Infinite Evil is impendent over us: so may it be very much mitigated, if we fear no such Evil. And this likewise is manifest; that the greatest Pleasure, or Trouble of the mind, doth more conduce to an happy, or miserable life; than either of the other two, though it should be equally lasting in the body.

VI.

Now, because there are two Capital diseases of the Mind, namely Cupidity and Fear, with their several branches, and with discontent or trouble conjoyned, after the same manner as pain is adjoyned to the diseases of the body; therefore is it the part of Philosophy to apply such Remedies, as may prevent them from invading the mind; or at least overcome and expel them, when they have invaded it. Such chiefly are the vain Desires of Wealth, of Honours, of Dominion, &c. and the Fear of Cœlestial Powers, of Death, &c. which having once assaulted

assaulted and taken possession of the mind, they leave no part thereof sound or unshaken.

VII.

Now the Remedies, which Philosophy doth apply, are the *Virtues*, which being derived from Reason, or more General Prudence, easily drive away and expel those Desires and Fears. We say, from Reason, or more General Prudence; because, as there is a more Special Prudence, inservient to the direction of all the particular actions of our lives: so also is there a more General Prudence, which is nothing else but very Reason it self, or the Dictamen of Reason, and is, by most, accounted the same with Sapience or Wisdom: and Virtue is only a certain perfect Disposition of the Mind, which Reason or Prudence doth create, and oppose to the Diseases of the Mind, i.e. to the Vices.

CHAP.

habita sibi loquimur quod molles esse hanc est
-sitione to habere necessarium, ut non evadat.

C H A P . VII.

Of Right Reason, and Free Will, from whence
arising is all the praise of the Virtues.

Hence we are to advance to the considera-
tion of Virtue, and the several
Species thereof; but, not without premising
a few Observables touching Reason it self,
and that which doth consist therein, with
Free Will; forasmuch as all the praise be-
longing to Virtue, doth derive its right on-
ly from thence; as likewise doth its Oppo-
site, Shame, which is due to Vice.

I.
Since Reason, in the General, is nothing
else but the Faculty of Ratiocinating, or
judging, or inferring one thing from ano-
ther; we chylders understand that Reason,
in Special, which discourses, judgeth, and
determineth of such things, as fall under
the power of mans Election, or Refusal.

III.

But, because this Reasoning or judgment
may be as well False as True, Wrong as
Right; therefore can we not well allow that
Reason, which makes a false judgment, to
be called Reason, but rather Opinion: how-
ever, if you please to keep constant to the
vulgar

vulgar phrase, let it still be called Reason, provided it be understood to be Wrong; as on the other side, Right Reason may also be called Opinion, provided we understand it to be Right.

IV.

As for Right Reason; that ariseth to us both from the Goodness of our Nature, or Ingenuity, and from the sedulous Observation or frequent Experience of things: whence it comes, that being grounded upon firm and corrected principles, our Reasoning comes at length to be solid; and we of right appeal to the judgment of him, who is Expert and Prudent in the things, of which judgment is to be given.

V.

In the mean while, when we say, of things, which fall under our power of Election or Refusal; we suppose, that there is in us also a Free or Arbitrary power of Reason; i. e. a Faculty of Electing and Prosecuting what Reason it self hath judged to be Good; and of Refusing and avoiding what it hath judged to be Evil.

VI.

Now, that this Arbitrary Freedom of our Will, is the congenial prerogative of our Nature; is Demonstrated unto us not only by our own Experience, but also by Common

mon Sense: which manifesteth, that nothing is worthy of Commendation or Vituperation, of Praise or Blame, but what is done Freely, Voluntarily, deliberately, and of Election; and therefore must depend upon something within us, which is above all Compulsion, superintendency, command, or controllment, and in respect whereunto all Rewards and Punishments are rightfully ordained by the Laws: Than which Laws nothing can be more unjust, if the actions of men were to be imputed to that rigid Necessity, which some have derived from Fate, as the sole Commandress of all things; declaring, that what event soever comes to pass, or whatever action is done, doth inevitably flow from an Eternal Decree, and the succession of connected Causes.

VII.

Truly, it is much better, to be addicted to that false Opinion, which vulgar heads entertain, of the Government of the Universe, and all things in it, by the Gods; than to be slaves to the belief of the Fate of some Naturalists, imposing the same upon our necks, as a Sempiternal Lord, or Tyrant, of whom we are to be afraid night and day. For, that opinion, that the Gods are to be Revered and Entreated, hath the Comfort of Hope

Hope annexed unto it : but, the other of Fate, imports an inexorable Decree, an indeclinable Necessity, and consequently the highest of miseries, Despair.

VIII.

Most true it is indeed, that in things void of Reason some Effects are Necessary (though not so necessary, as not to have been prevented, as we have declared in our Philosophy) but in Man, endowed with Reason, and especially so far forth as he makes use of that reason, there can be no Necessity at all : and therefore was it, that we endeavoured to assert the Declination of motions in Atoms, to the end we might from thence deduce, how Fortune might sometimes intervene and put in for a share in the success of Humane affairs, and yet the Freedom of mans Will remain absolute and Entire.

IX.

And requisite it is for us, to turn the edge of our Wit wholly against Fate or Necessity ; that we may by all means possible conserve our Will free from that Sempiternal Motion imagined by the Fatalist ; and so not permit Pravity or Wickedness to escape inculpable.

X. But

Expositio etis et deum Iacobus ergo

But, what we here say of Fortune, doth not in the least import; that we ought to ascribe any Divinity thereunto; not only as the Vulgar, but those Philosophers also, who accounting Fortune as some instable Cause, though they do not conceive, that she doth distribute to men anything of Good or Evil, that may conduce to an happy life; do yet think, that she doth give occasions of very considerable Goods and Evils. All that our words of Fortune imply, is only this; that as many things are effected by necessity and Counsel, so also by Fortune: and therefore, that it is the Duty of a wise man, to arm and provide himself against Fortune.

XI.

Now, seeing that whatever of Goodness, or Malice there is in Humane actions, hath dependence upon no other foundation, but only this; that a man doth those Actions Knowingly and Willingly, or Freely: therefore is the Mind to be accustomed to this, that it may know truly, i.e. use Right Reasons, and Will truly, i.e. that the Will be bent to that, which is truly Good, and averted from what is truly Evil. Forasmuch as this Assuefaction doth beget that Disposition in the mind, which we have defined

Expositio etis et deum Iacobus ergo

Vir.

Virtue to be; as the Affection of it to the Contrary, doth beget that disposition which we may justly define Vice to be; and vice versa.

We insist not upon this, that that is truly Good, which produceth Pleasure, as sincere, so also without any pain, trouble, or reparation attending and ensuing thereupon; and that truly Evil, which produceth pain, as sincere, so also without any Pleasure or Allurement to succeed upon it. Only we touch upon both, that we may discriminate either from what is only Apparent and Dissembled; such as that Good, which creating present pleasure, introduceth future pain and trouble; and that Evil, which procuring pain or trouble in the present, draws on pleasure and content in the future.

CHAP. VIII.**Of the Virtues, Generally.**

Forasmuch as Virtue is either Prudence itself, or the very Dictamen of Right Reason, as we accustom our minds to the constant exercise thereof; or is, at least, regulated by, and dependent upon Prudence,

or

or the Dictamen of Right Reason : from thence it is manifest, that to this Latter Kind belongs both that Virtue, whereby a man stands affected toward himself; and that, whereby he is affected toward others ; since Prudence is that, whereby a man is comparaed and enabled to Govern not only himself, but others also.

II.

That Virtue, which relates to *Others*, is commonly called by the name *Justice*: and that, which concerns only a *mans self*, is vulgarly Distinguished into two branches, *viz.* *Temperance* and *Fortitude*. But, we use to comprehend both under the simple term of *Honesty*; as when we say, that to do an act out of *Virtue*, is no more nor less than to do *Prudently*, *Honestly*, *Justly*: and this, because they, who live soberly and contiently, are said to live honestly, according to *Decorum*, or as becomes them; as they, who behave themselves Magnanimously, or Bravely, are reputed to behave themselves honestly or Becomingly.

III.

Hereupon, we (as others) make Virtue Fourfold, *viz.* *Prudence*, *Temperance*, *Fortitude*, and *Justice*. But so, as that we oppose not *Prudence* so much to any affection, as to *Incogitancy*, *Ignorance*, *Foolishness*; unless it

it be by accident only, as any perturbation doth eclipse Reason, and make a man do imprudently : nor Justice so much to any Affection, as to *Malice*, whereby a man is inclined to Frauds ; unless by accident only, in as much as Anger, Hate, Avarice, or some other passion may cause a man to do unjustly : and Temperance we oppose to *Cupidity*, and Fortitude to Fear.

I V.

It appears from hence, that what we formerly said [viz. that it is sober and well ordered Reason, which procures a pleasant or happy life] aimed at this ; that Right Reason doth produce a pleasant or happy life, by the means of those Virtues, which it ingenerateth and maintaineth. Likewise, that what we subjoined, as the Reason thereof, [viz. that Reason doth investigate the true Causes, why things are to be Elected, or Rejected, or chuseth away such opinions, as might occasion very great Perturbations of mind] was intended only to teach, that Right Reason is the very same with more General Prudence, the Principle upon which we ground all our Elections and Avoidances, and so a very great Good ; because the Virtues, arising from that Reason or Prudence, are able to appease and prevent all Perturbations, and this by convinc-

F

sing

cing, that no man can live pleasantly or happily, but he that lives Prudently, Honestly, Justly; as (*& converso*) that to live Prudently, Honestly, Justly, is to live pleasantly or happily.

V.

By this you may perceive the Ground of our Assertion, That *Happiness* and *Virtue* are *Convertible*; or, that the Virtues are Congenite and Essential to a happy life, so as it is impossible to separate these from that. For, all other things, as being caduce and mortal, may be abstracted from germane and constant pleasure: but, Virtue alone, being a perpetual and immortal Good, can never be separated from it.

VI.

From these things we may further understand, that all the Virtues are connected together; and that by a twofold relation: the First, because all the other Virtues are conjoined to, and dependent upon their Princes, Prudence, as the members of the body are conjoined to the Head; or as the streams are conjoined to the Fountain, from which they flow; the other, because as well Prudence, as all the others concur and unite in the point of a happy life; being that a happy life cannot consist without the

Vir-

Virtues, nor the Virtues without a happy life.

VII.

However, though the Virtues be all Connected thus together; yet are not they therefore all *Equal*; as some * have conceived, who contend that all Virtues and Faults, or Crimes are also Equal. For, a man may be comparated more to Justice than to Temperance; and Temperance may be more perfect in one man, than in another; as may be exemplified in *My Self* (without envy be it spoken) who have attained to so high a degree of sobriety, that I make a sufficient meal usually for less than an half-penny; and *Metronorus*, * my Friend and Companion, who cannot satisfie himself with altogether so course and spare a diet. Besides, experience assures, that one man is Wiser than another: and all that walk in the ways of Virtue, have not the like Rewards allotted to them; nor all Delinquents the like Punishments. Lastly, we appeal to Common sense, whether or no they are in the right,

* *Metronorus Lampre-*
cens, qui ex quo tem-
pore primam Epicurum
novit, nunquam ab eo-
dem discessit, nisi sex
tannum mensis; quibus
sum domi absenseret, ad
Epicurum reveritus est,
& per totam deinceps
vitam, illi artisi, ne-
cessitudine conjunctus,
in iisdem & hortis & stu-
diorum coniuxit. Legendum
est Gassend. cap. 8. lib. 1.
de vita Epicuri.

who make all Virtues, and all Vices Equal; that he offends as highly, who beats his servant without Cause, as he who beats his Father; that it is all one, for to eat a Bean, or ones Fathers Head.

VIII.

Others there are, who condemn and bitterly inveigh against us, for affirming, that the End of all the Virtues is Pleasure; as if we meant that kind of Pleasure, which is obscene and iufamous: but, let these men rail upon us as they please, we are wholly unconcerned in their malice. For, as they, so likewise do we make Virtue the *summum Bonum*; at least, if the discourse be touching the *Means* that conduce to an happy life: nor is there ought doth so much conduce thereunto, as Virtue: but, if the discourse be touching *Happiness* it self, why should not Happiness or Pleasure be a greater Good than Virtue, since it is the End, to the attainment whereof Virtue is but inservient.

IX.

They cry out upon us again, for making Virtue Enervous and Ineffectual, while we seem not to allow it to have so much power, as to render a Wise man Superior to all Passion or affection whatever, but leave him obnoxious to sundry vexations, as (for instance)

stance) to lament, weep, sigh, and with all the expressions of sorrow to deplore the death of a friend: but, seeing we put a very high value upon Virtue, in that it is able to exempt us from vain Terrors, and superfluous desires, which are the Heads or Fountains of all Grievous Perturbations; manifest it is, that we grant it to be of such excellent use, as to moderate all subordinate affections, insomuch as it refracts and reduceth them all to such a mediocrity, in which there remains some sense of Humanity.

X.

Certainly, that Total Exemption from Grief and Sorrow, which these men so much boast of; must proceed from some Greater Evil, *viz.* from Immanity, immoderate ambition of vain Glory, and in a manner downright madness. So that it seems much better, to feel some Passion, to be affected with some Grief, to shed such tears, as are to distil from their Eyes, who profess Love and tender affection: than to Grin, and declare a Brutish insensibility, according to the rigid rules of that inhumane Wisdom, to which these so much pretend.

CHAP. IX.

Of Prudence General.

THUS far of the Virtues in General; we now come to treat briefly of Each in Particular. Which that we may do the more methodically, let us begin at *Prudence*: whose office being to Govern a mans life, and so to provide, as that all Occurrents may be directed only to Happiness; well may we allow it to comprehend the offices, or Duties of all the other Virtues.

II.

And, that it is the Office, or Duty of Prudence, to order and compose all the accidents and actions of a mans life, so as that they may conduce only to Felicity, or the Pleasure formerly described: is more than manifest. For, as we esteem the Knowldg of Physicians, not for the Art of Physick it self, but the End of it, Health; and as the skill of a Pilot is not liked of and commended for the ingenuity, but Utility of it: even so Prudence, which is the art of Living well, would never be considered nor desired, if it were of no use or benefit in a mans life; and it is studied and desired, as the sole art, by which

which Happiness, or pleasure is to be acquired.

III.

For, it is Prudence (or if you please Sapience) alone, which doth not only prevent the incidence of any thing, that may cause Pain in the Body; but also above all things doth expel sadness from the mind, and suffers us not to startle at those things, at the very mention whereof the multitude usually trembles with fear: and which being our Directress, conducts us to tranquillity, by extinguishing the ardor of all cupidities. For, cupidities are insatiable, subverting not only single persons, but also numerous and opulent Families, yea sometimes the most potent and flourishing Common-wealths. From Cupidities arise Hatred, Dissensions, Seditions, Wars; nor do they only diffuse themselves abroad, or invade others with blind fury: but being included in private breasts, they cause intestine mutinies therein, and totally evert the economy and peace thereof. So that it follows, that they must of necessity make life most irksome and bitter; and that none but the Wise, or Pudent man, who have cut off all Inanity and Errour, and circumscribed his desires with the modest boundaries of Nature; can live

without sollicitude, without Discontent,
without Fears.

IV.

It being evident, therefore, that all the Perturbations of our life arise originally from Error and Indiscretion ; and that it is Prudence alone, which vindicates us from the violence of Lusts and Fears, and teacheth us gently to bear the injuries of Fortune, and pointeth out unto us all the ways, that lead to Quiet and Tranquillity : pray what reason is there to discourage us from affirming, that Prudence is to be sought after, in respect of Pleasure ; and Imprudence to be avoided, for the prevention of Troubles ?

V.

Now the Reason, why we say, that a Prudent man doth temperately bear the injuries of Fortune, is this ; that albeit he doth not previse and provide against any injury in particular, yet doth he foresee and provide against all in General. Nor doth he, if any misfortune intervene cross to his Hopes, or Counsels, therefore afflict himself : because he well knows it not to be in the power of Humane Reason, Sagacity, or Policy, either to previse, or prevent the intervention of every adverse and troublesome Accident. Yea, he holds it much better, to be Infortunate

hate with Reason and sage advice (such as Human frailty will admit) than to be Fortunate with Inconsideration and Temerity : and thinks nothing more grateful, than, if Fortune bring about any thing fairly and prosperously unto him, that he did not enterprize it without judgment and deliberation.

V.I.

He moreover so deporteth himself, as that cutting off all vain Cupidities, he contracts his desires to only Necessaries ; which are indeed, so few and small, as scarce any unkindness of Fortune can rob him of them : so that since very little of Fortune can intervene to a wise man ; he may well say to her, *I have prevented thee, O Fortune, and so barrocadoed all thy ways of access ; as that thou canst not approach me !*

*Occupavi te, Fortune, atq; cepi, omnesq; adiuuos tuos interclusi, ut ad me adspicere non posses : fidem exclaimasse legimus
Merodorus, Epicuri amicus & discipulus, apud Cicerronem, T. 5.*

VII.

But, concerning the way of Cutting off all Cupidities, hereafter ; in present, forasmuch as Prudence may be considered, either as a man doth thereby govern himself, or order his Family, or govern a City,

or

or a Common-wealth ; and so as it is distinguished into Private, Domesticke, Civil : it is convenient, that we speak somewhat of each.

CHAP. X.

Of Prudence Private.

OF Private Prudence the whole sum consisteth in no more but this, that a man well understand his own Genius, and enterprising nothing, to which Nature hath a repugnancy, he looks well into the conditions of that state, in which he is to spend his whole life, and to which he is so to accommodate all his actions, as that, as much as possible, he may live in Indolency and Tranquillity.

II.

For, it behoves him to have the Eye of his mind constantly and immoveably fixt upon this end, or scope of his life ; and consulting with right reason, to proceed according to the evidence of those Criteria, by which we are wont, when we perpend the Good or Evil of objects, to erect our determinations. Since otherwise, all things will be full of indiscreet temerity and confusion,

fusion, and late Repentance will attend upon all his undertakings.

III.

Moreover, in case you do not direct every one of your Actions, upon what occasion soever, as to this grand scope, so also to that very end of Nature which you proposed to your self in the designation of it ; but turn aside to any other sinister purpose, either in the prosecution or avoidance of any Object whatsoever : then, certainly, shall not the Actions of your life be consentaneous to your discourses ; but extolling Tranquillity (for instance) in your words, you shall betray your self to be really addicted to multiplicity of business, and obnoxious to very much trouble.

IV.

Now, that man doth clearly understand the Ends prescribed by Nature, in the course of life to be instituted and undertaken ; who well knows ; how easily that is procurable, which is necessary to life, or what is sufficient to the detraction of all, that can, by indigence, cause pain in the Body. For, from thence he so well knows how to order the whole series of his life, as always to be above the want of such things, as are full of business, and Contention, and consequently of Chance and Danger.

V. Here-

V.

Hereupon a Wise man hath no reason to be much afraid of Poverty; because it is very rare to find a man so poor, as to be in want of those things, which are necessary to life. But in case our Wise man should be reduced to such a low ebb of Fortune, as to want things necessary to the sustenance of his life: yet will he not, with the Cynicks, betake himself to the shameful refuge of Begging; but, rather undertake the Eru-

*Tu poscis vilias, ve-
rum es dante minor,
quamvis fers te nullius
egentem. Horat. Epist.
17. lib. I.*

dition of some others in Wisdom, that so he may both take a course be- seeming the dignity of his Prudence, and at the

same time deservedly accommodate himself with necessaries, from those, who have abundance.

VI.

And while he is constrained, to take this, or some other honest and befitting course, that by an acquired confidence of mind, he may generously receive those things, which happen to him for the instant day, he is to have recourse to the Oracle of his own Wisdom, and call Philosophy to his relief: for we then resign the arbitration of those things, that so nearly concern us, to an Evil Councillor; when we measure and provide against indigence, by any other

pro-

proportion but the simple necessities of Nature, and the rules of Philosophy.

VII.

Wherefore, it behoves a Philosopher to provide for such competent means, as may supply his necessities; and so long to apply himself to that provision, as till his diligent care hath furnished him: but, so long as any part of them may be spared, and his confidence yet remain perfect, he is in no case to addict himself to the getting of riches, and storing up of provisions.

VIII.

In the provision of these things, therefore our care is to be proportioned by Philosophy; and so, in a short time, we shall come to know, what a Virtue, and how great a Good it is, to require only what is simple, light, and very small: because, what is most sweet, and free from trouble in all a mans life, depends wholly upon this; to be contented with the least, &c. only so much, as sufficeth nature. And, as for those impediments, which the sollicitous hunting after more doth draw upon us; when they once discover themselves (as soon they must) either by the great labour of the body, or the difficulty in the very procuring them, or the abduction of the mind from more worthy and advantageous

tageous speculations (which we ought evermore highly to esteem) or the dissatisfaction resulting from the fruition of them : certainly, we shall clearly perceive the same to be altogether fruitless, and insufficient to compensate the consequent perturbations.

IX.

And, whereas we premonished, that every man should, before he determines, on what course of life to put himself, strictly examine his own Genius, and advise with himself concerning the inclination thereof; that so he may at length happily devote himself to that, which he finds most agreeable to the Destination of it : our purpose therein was, to intimate, that nothing can be more miserable and more inconsistent with tranquillity, than for a man to be engaged in that course of life, to which Nature made him unfit.

X.

It follows from hence, that an Active life is not fit for a slothful and heavy person ; not a slothful lazy kind of life fit for an active : for as idleness is quiet, and action labour to the one ; so to the other idleness is a labour, and action quiet. Thus, a Soldiers life is unfit for a Timorous and softy man ; and an umbratile life odious to an impatient and

and bold man : for one cannot endure the heat of War ; nor the other the cool shadow of peace. So that nothing can be more safe or hopeful, than for a man to devote himself to that, to which he finds no adversity or repugnancy in his nature.

X.L.

Wherunto you may please to add this one rule ; that every man, to the end the state of life which he chooseth, may be the more secure and tranquil, ought to choose a mean state, or such as is neither very eminent, nor very abject ; at least if it be in his own power. Because, it behoves him to live in a Civil society, neither as a Lyon, nor as a Gnat : lest he be exterminated, as the one ; or ensnared and crushed, as the other.

CHAP. XL.

Of Prudence Domestick.

This sort of Prudence divides it self into Two branches ; the First concerns a man in the capacity of a Husband, and a Father ; the other, as he is a Master of Servants, and Possessor of House, Goods, Lands, &c.

II. Con-

Concerning the Former, viz. *Conjugal* and *Paternal* Prudence, let us observe only what may be inferred from the Premises, touching the Directions of a man, in the Election of his course of life. Thus if you find your Constitution to be such, as that you cannot, without the ardors of the flesh, live single; that you can with patience endure a morose and unquiet Wife, and untoward and undutiful Children; that you shall not be subject and apt to vex, repine and grieve, when you shall hear your Children crying and bawling, see them groaning on the bed of sickness, or snatched away by death before you; and that you shall not be perplexed and distracted with those cares and sollicitudes, that accompany the provision of all things necessary to a Conjugal state: why then, indeed, it may be convenient for you, to take a Wife, and beget Children; for which you may provide by a Conjugal and Paternal Prudence.

You may presume, indeed, that your Wife will be sweet and Complacent; that your Children will be of ingenuous and tractable dispositions; that your cares for them will not be great, nor many; that you have so laid your designs, as that you cannot expect any thing but prosperity and good

good success: and yet you can but presume all this, nor do I know any God, who will oblige himself, that your affairs shall succeed according to this your presumption. Wherefore, seeing the business is very doubtful; it is far below the part of a Wise man, willingly to put himself upon Chance, to undergo the hazard, and engage himself in that condition, from whence, in case he should afterward repent, he cannot withdraw himself.

IV.

We say, *Willingly*; because there may be some such Circumstance, as may require a man, though much against his will, to marry and generate Children; as, for instance, in case he live in a Country but thinly peopled, and where he is to be serviceable to the Common-wealth by encreasing the members of it. Some, we know, pretend the propagation of their species, to which Nature seems to oblige all; but certainly, there is no fear that mankind should fail, there being in all times and places enough that give themselves to Marriage and Procreation: so that some few Wise men may well be permitted to abstain, and leave the business of Propagation to be performed by others.

C

V. Now

V.

Now if any such Case, or certain Counsel, or any necessity shall constrain you to marry; then are you so to dispose your Wife, as that she may be loving and complacent to you, and a partner in your Cares: and to take such care for your Children as is prescribed to you partly by Nature, which by strong instinct obligeth us to love & cherish them as soon as they are born (and so much even Wolves, Tygers, and all other wild Beasts always do) and partly by Prudence, which admonisheth us so to educate and instruct them in the rudiments of Morality, as that they may be obedient to the Laws of the Country, and desire nothing so much, as to be made Wise themselves.

VI.

Nor are we to take this care only for our own Children; but also for those of our friends, and especially if they be our Pupils. For, nothing is more befitting the Dignity of Friendship, than for a man to become a Tutor, and supply the place of a Parent to those, whom his deceased Friend both dearly loved, and left as Orphans, and so in need of Protection and Tuition.

VII.

And as for the other branch of Domestick Prudence, which teacheth a man how to deport himself in the Capacity of a Master, or as he hath Servants at his Command, and Possessions at his Disposal; both which though necessary, are yet, for the most part, not very pleasant: the sum of it consists in this. Let him endeavour to prevent the sawciness, morosity, and insolence of his Servants; deport himself with mildness and gentleness toward them, so far as may stand with his superiority, and their obedience; with a kind of * unwillingness Chastise and Correct even the perverse and disobedient, as remembering that they also are men; Connive at some involuntary faults, and forgive some others, especially if they be diligent, and not of an evil disposition. but, if he find them to be capable of, and inclined to the study of Wisdom (such we have sometimes met with, and chiefly my servant *Mus**) it is his duty to encourage and assist them there-

* Qui placidus delicia domat; nec dentibus unquam, Instrepet horrendum, frenitu os verbera poscit. *Claud. de Macil.*

Nor this only;

* Hunc servum Epicurus Murem inter Philosophae clarissimum [Archætrator] evasisse testatur *Lerius*, l. i. c. 12. neque *Macrobius* (*Saturni. cap. 11. 10. lib. 1. 1.*) libidinosus inter eos, qui Philosophis ex servis nro incedentes evaserat.

in, to allow them the Familiarity of Friends, and account it pleasant or good to permit them to Philosophize toghther with himself.

VIII.

In the matter of his Estate, he is not only to live within compass, but so to proportion his Expences, as still to be laying up somewhat for the Future; yet without Avarice, and the sordid desire of heaping up wealth. For, it is not the part of a Wise man to neglect his houshold Affairs; insomuch as his livelyhood depends thereupon, and if he through negligence permit all to run to ruine, so that he come at length to want Necessaries; he must very much obstruct his progress in Philosophy: being that then he must either addict himself to the laborious Getting of what might have been kept with little Care; or to the importunate Begging of that at the Charitable hands of Others, which his own easie Providence might have furnished him withal; or grow old, crazy, diseased, and die in such want, as must be no small hindrance to the Tranquility of his mind.

IX.

And besides such things as are absolutely necessary to the uses of life; there are also others, that may be accounted necessary

Re-

Respectively, or according to the Condition of the Person, Place, Time, and other Circumstances, and therefore they ought not to be neglected. But the chiefest of our Familiar Care must be for those things, without which, Nature her self must suffer and decay, and such is chiefly the provision of Grain and other lasting Fruits of the Earth; and for that reason we more commend those, who have their Granaries well stored with Corn, than those who have their Houses adorned with gawdy and rich Furniture. It much delights me to remember, that not long since, when, in our City long and straitly besieged, many perished by Famine; we were able to preserve our selves and divers Friends in good plight; not with delicate Quam De-
meatia
Cates, but good plenty of Beans, obfedit
whereof each person had a certain Athens,
number allowed him daily. circa an-
num Epi-

ceti, 44. Quanta autem famis civitatem opprefserit eadem obſidione, deſcribit Plutarbus [in vita Demetrii] ubi, inter cetera inquit: Ferunt etiam Epicurum Philoſophum familiæ ſuos ſuſtinenti, partitum cum iſis ad numerum fabas,

G. 3. on the CHAP.

CHAP. XII.

Of Prudence Civil.

LAstly, as for the concern of *Civil Prudence*; we are likewise to deduce the sum of it, from what we have insinuated touching the Course of life to be elected.

II.

Thus, if there be any, who are by Nature ambitious, desirous of Glory, Active and fit for the manage of Publick Affairs; and have besides the advantages of Birth, Fortune; and opportunity that seem not only to invite, but also to open them an easie and safe way thereto: for these men it may be convenient to obey the inclination of their Genius, by addicting themselves to action, and the administration of affairs, wherein the Republick is concerned; because, They are so disposed by their Constitution, as that they cannot but suffer perturbations and quietes in an obscure and unactive life, while they labour with a restless desire of what they do not obtain.

III.

If, asfor those, who are not by Nature Comparated to much imployment, but to Quiet and Ease; or have by force of Reason

son repressed their Natural Ambition and vain affectation of Popularity; or having learned, by their own costly Experience, the certain Troubles, and uncertain duration of Grandeur, have withdrawn themselves from the storm, that frequently threaten men of Publick Charges; or have been made wary and cautious by the sad Examples of other Statesmen, whose aspiring humours occasioned their precipitous Downfalls: good reason is there, that these should esteem the quiet of a private condition, much better than the disquiet and dangers of a popular; unless, perhaps, some accident intervene on the part of the Commonwealth, that doth require their industry. And hereupon we conclude, *That a Wise man is not to engage himself in the administration of Publick Affairs, unless some intervening Necessity call him thereto.*

IV.

And why should we not thus conclude; since to a Wise man, addicting himself to Leisure and Quiet, it may be both much more easie, and safe to attain to that End, which ambitious men propose to themselves to be acquired by Dangers and restless Labours?

For, that we may speak of the scope, or end, at which the ambitious aim, there never wanted some, who, to the end they might attain security from others (and according to the condition of Principality and Dominion, by which they conceived that security chiefly acquirable) have affected to render themselves illustrious with Glory and Renown : thinking by that means to advance themselves to a state of security and tranquillity. But, if the lives of these proved really secure and tranquil (as in truth it could hardly be) then did they indeed attain that very thing, which, to Nature is so good and pleasant: and if they were not, then did they fall from their hopes, and wholly miss their aim, insomuch, as they in vain sought after what is congruous to Nature, in Greatness and Dominion.

VI.

Now, seeing the scope of a Wise man is the very same, namely, Security and Tranquillity of life; pray, by how much nearer a way doth he arrive at that end, when avoiding the tumults of a civil life, he directly and immediately placeth himself in a most profound quiet, and a state of highest silence and tranquillity? Truly happy is that

that man, who knows, that the chiefest good, or a happy life, doth not consist in power and Sovereignty ; not in a full Exchequer, nor in ample possessions : but, in freedom from pain, a calm of all affections, and that disposition of mind, which circumscribing all his desires by the simple boundaries of Nature, makes him content with a few things, and so to be Master of that, which the ambitious despair to obtain, unless they could bear rule over all others, and heap up Treasures inexhaustible.

VII.

Certainly, if it be fit for me to speak of my self, I account it for a very great Felicity, that I never yet interposed my self in the Factions of our City, nor ever sought to flatter, please, and endear the people. And what Reason, why I should ; since the people doth not approve what I know, nor I know what the people approve ? Besides, how far was it from Harm, that I and my familiar friend *Metrodorus* have lived together,

Scribit *Plinius* [lib. 19. cap. 4.] Epicurum primum instituisse Athenis agrorum, villarumque delicias, nomine *Hortorum* in ipsa Urbe possidere ; cum ad usque cum nos non fuisset in oppidis habitari rura. Hinc accipi solet pro ipsa secta, seu doctrina, qua ab Epicuro, sectatoribusque in horto eius tradita est : unde & Epicurei dicuntur esse aetate nostra hortari ex Hortis Philosophi ; sicut & aetate nostra intelliguntur Stoici, apud Empirium [i. advers. Physic.

ther, not only privately, but in a manner concealed : when among so great Goods, as we were capable of enjoying in my narrow Gardens, and in obscure Melite, we were not only unknown, but almost unheard of in our own noble Country of *Greece*.

VIII.

We said, *Unless something intervene on the Common-weals part* : because if the Republick call a Wise man to the Helm, and really stand in need of his advice and assistance : in such a case it would be downright inhumanity in him, not to do a Publick Good, when it lies in his power ; nay, he would be injurious even to himself, because unless the Common-wealth be in safety, he can very hardly obtain what he chiefly desires, Leisure and Quiet.

IX.

Let not a Wise man, therefore, behave himself, as we have observed some to do ; who professing Wisdom, have, through excessive pride, had so high a conceit of their own judgment and abilities in the Politicks, as that they were confident they could rival, if not outdo even *Lycurgus* and *Solon*, in the Art of Ruling.

X.

But, in case he be desired to make Laws, and to prescribe both a Form of Government,

ment, and Charges for the several Magistrates : He is in no wise to decline it, as well knowing, that those, who first made Laws, and Ordinances of Justice, and constituted Government and Magistracy in Cities, did principally aim at, and prudently provide for Tranquillity and Security of life ; forasmuch as if those Laws and Constitutions be once taken away, we should lead the life of Wild Beasts, and the stronger would at least despoil, if not devour weaker.

XI.

Again, if he shall be Elected to the Highest Sovereignty , and to rule according to the Laws formerly made, and the Government already established ; neither will he refuse that : as well knowing, that though the condition of a Prince be for the most part full of incertitude, and above all others open to sinister Chance ; yet a Wise man may look so profoundly into all Affairs, and so provide against Casualties, as that while Fortune intervenes in some less important Occurrences, the Greatest and most weighty Affairs of State are happily managed by his Counsel and Reason. His chief and first Endeavours will be, to provide, that the weaker , while they do their duties toward the stronger, be neither oppressed

pressed by them, nor live in want of those necessaries to life, wherewith the others superabound. For, the end of every Society of men, or Common-wealth, is only the Common Good, or that all conspiring and cooperating to the Publick interest, the life of every man may be safe, and (as far as may be) Happy.

XII.

Finally, in case his Prince, upon some urgent occasion, summon him to come and afford him his Counsel, or Assistance; neither will he refuse that: as knowing, that, since it is not only more honourable, but also more pleasant to give, than to receive a Benefit, it must be an Act as most honourable, so also most pleasant, to confer a benefit upon a Prince, from whom it is to redound to Millions of others. And thus much of the Principal, and Sourse of all the Virtues, *Prudence*.

CHAP.

CHAP. XIII.

Of Temperance in General.

The next place belongs to *Temperance*, which is the first part of *Honesty*, and that which seems to comprehend the chief Reason of what is Honest, or Beseeeming. For, since it is the office of Temperance to repress a Desiring, so is it of Fortitude to erect a Fearing mind; it is justly accounted a less Indecorum to be let down by Pusillanimity, than to be wound up by Cupidity, and, therefore, it is a greater Decorum to resist Cupidity, than to strive against Fear.

II.

Concerning Temperance, this is first to be observed; that it is not to be affected and pursued for its own sake, but for the Pleasure it brings with it, that is, because it adfers peace to a mans mind, and pleasantly affects it with a certain Concord. For, its proper operation is the Moderation of our Cupidities; and therefore, that we may follow the conduct of Reason, in the Election or avoidance of Objects, it admonisheth us, that it is not sufficient for us to judge rightly what is to be done, or not

not to be done: but it behoves us also to stand to and execute that judgment.

III.

Most men, being not able to hold and keep to what they have resolved upon, as overcome and enfeebled by the appearance of a present Pleasure; resign up themselves to the fetters of Lusts, and never foresee what is to follow thereupon: and, for the same cause, inconsiderately pursuing a small, transitory, and unnecessary pleasure, and such as they might have otherwise enjoyed, or wholly wanted, without any offence to Nature; they precipitate themselves into grievous diseases, into losses, into disgrace, and many times into the penalties decreed by the Laws.

IV.

But, they who would so enjoy pleasures, as that no pains shall ensue thereupon; and constantly retain their judgment, not to be overcome by Pleasure, to the doing of what they know ought not to be done: these men acquire the greatest Pleasure, by pretermittting Pleasure; and frequently suffer some pain, to prevent their falling into greater.

V.

And hence is it understood, that Temperance is to be desired, not because it avoids some

some Pleasures, but because by restraining a man from them, it declines Troubles, which being avoided, he afterwards obtains greater Pleasures. And this in the mean time it so doth, as that the action becomes Honest and Decent: and we may clearly understand, that the same men are lovers as of Pleasure, so also of Decorum; yea, and that such, who esteem and pursue all Virtues, do for the most part perform those actions, and attain to those Ends; as that by them it is made manifest, how odious to all men Cruelty is, and how amiable Goodness and Clemency; and that those very Pleasures, which Evil men most eagerly desire and hunt after, do fall into the laps of only good men.

VI.

Moreover, for as much as among Cupidities, about the restraint and Moderation of which Temperance is employed, some are Natural, others vain or merely opinionative; and of the Natural ones some are necessary, others Not-necessary (we omit that of the Necessary ones, some pertain simply to Life; such is the appetite of meat and drink, together with the Pleasure, which consists only in Motion; and others absolutely to Felicity it self; such as that of Indolency and Tranquillity, or the stable Plea-

Pleasure) manifest it is, that not without good cause we have, in our Physiology, made Three kinds of Cupidities, viz. (1.) some that are both *Natural and Necessary*: (2.) others that are *Natural, but Not-necessary*: and (3.) others that are *neither Natural nor Necessary*, but meerly Vain, or arising from vain *Opinion*.

VII.

And because we said, that those are *Natural and Necessary*, which cause damage and pain in the body, if they be not satisfied; it is evident, that such Cupidities, which infer no damage nor pain, if not satisfied, and yet are joyned with earnest and vehement instigations, do become such, not by any *Necessity*, but by *Opinion*; and though they have their seeds from *Nature*, yet when they run up to *Excess*, their growth is caused only by the evil, but powerful influence of *Opinion*; which makes men far worse than Beasts, since they are not obnoxious to any such diffusion, or *Excess*; and again, that such Cupidities may be proved to be not only *Not-necessary*, but also *Not-natural*, only by this, that they import an appetence in *Excess*, and very hardly or never to be satisfied, and are, for the most part, worthily accounted the Causes of some Harm or other even to *Nature*.

VIII. Now,

VIII.

Now, that we may discourse of the chief sorts of Temperance, respectively to the Chief sorts of Cupidities; we are to pitch upon (1.) *Sobriety*, which stands opposed to *Gluttony*, or the excessive desire of meat and drink: (2.) *Continen^ce*, which confronts *Lust*, or the unbridled desire of *Venus*: (3.) *Lenity*, the adversary to *Anger*, or the desire of Revenge: (4.) *Moderation*, the contrary to *Ambition*, or the affectation of Honour: (5.) *Moderation*, the antagonist to *Avarice*, or the Cupidity of Riches: and (6.) in respect of the affinity betwixt Desire and Hope, *Mediocrity*, the mean betwixt *Hope* and *Desperation* of the Future.

CHAP. XIV.

Of Sobriety opposed to Gluttony.

IT can hardly be expressed, how great Good redounds from Sobriety; which reducing a man to a thin, simple, and spare Diet, by happy experience teacheth, how little that is, which Nature requires, and that her Necessities may be abundantly satisfied with slender and easily provided Aliment,

ment, such as decocted Barly, Fruits, Herbs, and Fountain Water.

II.

For, these things sufficiently remove the trouble of the body arising from want of sustenance; are every where to be had, in good plenty; and contain the Faculties of dry and moist Aliments. Whatever is more than this, amounts to Luxury, and concerns only the satisfaction of a Cupidity, which is neither Necessary, nor occasioned by any thing, whose defect doth necessarily infer any the least offence or detriment to Nature: but ariseth partly from hence, that the want of somewhat, after which the exorbitant appetite longeth, is imagined real, and born with impatience; partly from hence, that an absolute Delight, or such as is entire and neither accompanied with, nor attended on by any trouble, is presumed from the satisfaction thereof.

III.

And forasmuch as such things, as are commonly provided to our hands, abundantly suffice to supply all Natures wants; and these Aliments are such, as partly for their simplicity, partly for their Exiguity, are easily providible: hence it follows, that he, who feeds upon flesh, hath need of other things to eat with it; when he, who is satisfied

satisfied only with Inanimates, hath need of but half so much as the other, and straing himself with what is easie in the provision, and of small cost and pains in the preparation.

I V.

Now, as for the *Commodities*, which redound from Sobriety, they are principally *Four*. The *First* is, that it brings and conserves Health, by accustoming the body to simple, course, and spare Diet. For, sumptuous Feasts, and full meals, and various dishes, are they which generate exasperate, and prolong Crudities, Head-achs, Rheums, Gouts, Fevers, and other Diseases: not that plain and simple fare, which Nature affordeth both as Necessary and wholsome, and this not only to other Animals, but also to man, who yet depraves them by his exorbitancy, and corrupts them by such Delicates as which while he affects, he affects only his own Destruction.

V.

Who so is Wise, therefore, let him always beware of that Dish, which his irregular Appetite earnestly covets and pursues; and upon which he cannot feed, without being afterward convinced, that it was grateful to him only to his own harm. Of this sort are all costly, fat, and luscious meats; and

therefore the use of Flesh must be rather Hurtful, than Beneficial to Health; of which this may be a very good Argument: that since Health is preserved by the same means, which restore it, when lost; and abstinence from flesh is generally prescribed by learned Physicians, in most diseases, especially acute ones; certainly, the best way of conserving health, must be a spare diet, and no Flesh.

VI.

It is no wonder, that the People commonly cry up the use of Flesh, as an Aliment highly conduced to Health; for, they magnifie all things that please the Gust, and think that the direct way to Health lies in the wallowing in Pleasures, nay, even of Venereal pleasures; whereof, notwithstanding there is none, which is beneficial to any man, and that constitution is very rare, to which it is not hurtful at all times.

VII.

The *Second* is this; that it makes men ready, vivacious, and quick, in the doing of all actions necessary to life. For, if you regard the Functions of the Mind, it conserves the same in serenity, acuteness, and vigour: if the offices of the Body; it conserves it in health, and so in strength, agility, and hardness. Whereas, on the other side, Repletion,

tion, overmuch satiety, surfeiting, beclouds the mind, dulls the edge of it, and brings it to an unmanly languor and stupidity : and the body it makes as diseased, so feeble, unactive and burdensom, Now I beseech you what great matters can you expect from that man, whose members are oppressed, joints enfeebled, sinews relaxed, head beclouded, tongue heavy and paralytical, eys floating in rheums, veins glowing with heat and Choler ; mouth full of brawling and clamours, and all by reason of Wine drunk in excess.

VIII.

Verily, a Wise man, who ought to content his Stomack either with less then a pint of small Wine, or with Water from the Fountain, the most not only wholsom, but sweet of all Drinks ; will be very far from spending the night in Compotations and Drunkenness : and as far from gorging it, and oppressing Nature with meats fat, sweet and gustful, and of heavy and slow digesti-
on ; since he well knows, that the most sim-
ple Cates, such as only Nature gives and Cooks, will equally satisfie the stomach, and better preserve Health.

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IX. And,

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IX.

And, what though such simple and slender Diet will not make a man as strong as Milo was, nor pamper the flesh and corroborate the sinews? yet this doth no way disparage the use of it to a Wise man, who hath no need of such Robustness of body, and intention of strength; the busines of his life being chiefly Contemplation, not Activity and Petulancey.

X.

A Third advantage accruing from Sobriety, is this; that a sober man, coming to a Feast, eats his meat with ten times more delight than another, because he brings an exact palate to tast, and a clean and sharp stomach, to entertain it. Note that coarse and homely Cates do not afford as much delight both to the Gust and stomach, as the most sumptuous Banquets; when a man brings with him the best of sweets, hunger (for, every man knows, that in case of perfect hunger and thirst, decocted Barly and clean Water are highly grateful, and supply that defect of nourishment, from whence the trouble of hunger and thirst arise) but because those, who are daily used to more sumptuous entertainments, have their palats so furred and imbued, and their stomachs so oppressed and weakned by the continual use and

and ingurgitation of them, that they neither relish nor swallow their meats and drinks with pleasure comparable to that, which a sober man receives, whose *Gusto* is sincere, and Appetite strong. Thus also a Wise man, who comes but now and then to publick shews and spectacles, is sensible of far more pleasure than those, who daily frequent them.

XII.

Nor can what we say, concerning the excellency of as much pleasure from the coarsest food, as from dishes of the greatest cost and most exquisite Cookery, be contradicted by any; but him, who exposeth himself to the Tyranny of vain opinions; who doth not observe, that those only enjoy magnificence with greatest pleasure, who do the least need or care for it; and who never tasted the pleasure of Bread and Water, when pressed with pure hunger and thirst. For mine own part, seriously, when I feed upon simple Bread and Water, and sometimes (when I would entertain myself somewhat more splendidly) mend my cheer with a little Cheese; I apprehend abundant satisfaction therein; and bid defiance to those pleasures, which the ignorant and sensual Vulgar so much like and cry up in the magnificence of great Entertainments:

ments; and hereupon, if I have no more than brown Bread, Decocted Barly, and clean Water; I think my Table so well furnished, as that I dare dispute Felicity even with Jove himself.

XII.

We farther affirm, that the magnificence of Feasts, and variety of Dishes, do not only not exempt the mind from Perturbations; but not so much as heighten the pleasure of the Body: forasmuch as the end of Nature in Eating, is the remover of Hunger. For Example, the use of Flesh doth neither more especially take away any thing, that is a trouble to Nature; nor perform any thing, which might occasion or convert to a trouble, if not performed. But, in the mean time it doth affect nature with a certain violent Gratefulness, and such as perhaps may be contrary to it, insomuch as we observe, that it doth the least of all meats conduce to the prolongation of life; and all that it serveth to, is the Variation of Imaginary Pleasures, like the blandishments of *Venus*, and the drinking of Exotique wines, without which Nature, or Life might very well last; since those things, without which nature cannot subsist, are altogether compendious, and may with great ease, and with the safety of Justice, Liberality, and Tranquillity, be obtained.

XIII. Fi-

XIII.

Finally, the *Fourth* advantage of Sobriety is this ; that it makes us superior to the threats of Fortune. For, they only are afraid of the frowns of Fortune, who being accustomed to live delicately and sumptuously, conceive that their lives must be most miserable, unless they can have where-with to spend Pounds and Talents every day. And hence comes it , that such for the most part, become obnoxious to various and great troubles ; and frequently commit Rapines, Murders, and the like horrid and detestable Villanies, and all to ferment their Luxury, and maintain their Profuseness. But, as for that sober person, who contents himself with coarse and cheap food, such as Fruits and Sallets, Bread and Water ; who hath bounded his desires with only the Necessaries of Nature ; what reason is there, why this man should stand in fear of Fortune ? For, who is there in the whole World so poor, as to want these things ? and what malignity of Fortune hath ever reduced a man to a lower ebb, than Bread and Water ?

XIV.

As for my self, truly (I speak modestly, and therefore may be permitted) I am not only well content, but highly pleased with the

the Plants and Fruits growing in these my own little Gardens ; and have this Inscription over the door : Stranger, Here, if you please, you may abide in a good condition ; Here, the supreme Good is Pleasure ; the Steward of this homely Cottage is hospitable, bountiful, and ready to receive you ; He shall afford you Barley-broth, and pure Water of the Spring, and say Friend, are you not well entertained ? For, these Gardens do not invite Hunger, but satisfy it ; nor increase your thirst with drinks, while they should extinguish it, but wholly overcome it with a Natural and Grateful Liquor.

XV.

And in this Pleasure have I grown old ; finding upon my accounts, that my expences do not amount to quite a Half-penny a day : and yet, in some certain days, I abate somewhat of that too, and fare harder ; and this, that I may observe, whether that could detract a whit from my full pleasure, or whether more than that were worth my labour of seeking after.

CHAP. XV.

Of Continence, opposed to Lust.

THE next species of Temperance, is Continence or Abstinence from the sensual delights of Venus; which being never beneficial to any, and pernicious to most (as we have already hinted) the forbearance of them must be an Eminent Virtue.

III.

For a man to abuse venereal delights with intemperance, is, in brief, to make his life void of vigour, anxious with Cares, painful with Diseases, short in Duration, and therefore a wise man ought not to suffer himself to be Captivated by the Charms of Love, nor to conceive it to be a Divine Passion, and so to be indulged.

andrus; Totus in effrenem ne libet malorum humorum;
Quippe Amor haud Deus est; tacita est Affectio cuique.
Phocylid.

III.

And that he may be the less prone to be ensnared by the specious allurements thereof,

of, and want the chief Incentives and Fewel to the flames of *Venus*; let him be punctual in the observance of a spare diet, than which nothing can be more available to Continency, in as much as the plenty and turgescence of seed, which arise from a too liberal diet, are both sparks and fuel to the fire of Love. The preservatives next to this, are constant employment, especially about the study and practice of Wisdom; and Meditation of those many and great Incommodeities, to which they are obnoxious, who suffer themselves to be carried away by the violence of Love.

IV.

For, as to the Incommodeities in the General of the immoderate courtship of either

Epicurus, interrogatus quando ad mulierem foder accedendum; quando viles, inquit, fieri imbecillior. *Ex Lactio, lib. 8.*

Res esse saluberrimas [τροφής αδεύτη, οὐδὲν δεκτό, τὸ περιγέλας ωντὸς συρτόποντος] curia sagittarum vesci, ad laborem impigrum esse, & substantiam semenis conservare dixit *Hippocrat. 6. Epidem. Seg. 4.*

Women or Boys; they are, Consumption of strength, decay of Industry, unfitness for business and labour, neglect of Domestick Prudence, impairment of Estate, Mortgages, and Forfeitures, ruine of reputation and fame: and while the pamper'd Body shines again with jewels

XUM

jewels and other precious Ornaments, the poor neglected Mind, as conscious to it self of its own Guilt and wretchedness, becomes its own continual Tormentor; for that it hath spent the flower of life in dull and slothful effeminacy, and suffer'd so many good years to be lost in that Nothing of Dalliance.

V.

And, as to the Special Incommodities; what Evil doth it not draw upon a man, to desire to have to do with that Woman, whose company the Laws interdict him? Doubtless a Wise man will be very far from admitting such a design into the company of his thoughts; since he must be deterred from it even by that great sollicitude, that is necessary to the very precaution of those many and great Dangers which threaten him therein: it being observable, that such as attempt to enjoy forbidden women, are frequently rewarded with wounds, death, imprisonment, banishment, and other grievous punishments. Whence it comes, that (as we said before) for a Pleasure, which is but short, little, and not-necessary, and which might have been either otherwise enjoyed, or wholly omitted, men frequently expose themselves to very great pain, or most tedious and sore repentance.

VI.BE-

VI.

Besides, to be Incontinent, to resign up ones self to this one kind of Pleasure, is it not in the mean time to defraud himself of other pleasures many and great? which that man enjoys, who living Continently and according to the Laws, so applies himself to Wisdom, as that he doth neither blunt the edge of his Mind, nor excruciate it with cares, nor perturb it with extravagant Affections; and for his Body, he doth neither enfeeble it with excessive Venery, nor vex and macerate it with Diseases, nor torment it with pains. And so he comes to attain the *summum Bonum*, which (as we formerly insinuated) doth not result from the familiarity and embraces of Boys or Women, nor from the taste of rare and delicious Fishes, or other blandishments of a Table richly furnished.

VII.

We need not to insist upon this; that there is no reason why any man should, from this our Commendation of General abstinence from Venereal Embraces, infer, that therefore a man ought to abstain from the legitimate and moderate pleasures of the marriage-bed: since, what our judgment is of that particular, we have formerly declared. What is more necessary here

to

to be added, is this; that what we said, of *Loves being no Divinely-immitted Affection*, hath this importance, that if a man have no issue by his Wife, he is not to ascribe it to the anger of those Imaginary Deities, *Cupid* and *Venus*, but only to some natural Defect, on his own or his Wifes side; and consequently that he is not to hope to become a Father by Vows, Prayers, and solemn Sacrifices, rather than by Natural Remedies.

VIII.

We superadde this also; that a wise man ought not to live after the beastly manner of the *Cynicks*, or to deport himself with that Immodesty and Impudence, which they not only shew but boast of in publick. For, when they plead, that they therein follow the directions of Nature, and reprehend and deride us, for calling such things Flagitious, Filthy, or shameful, which have no Turpitude really, or in themselves; and calling by their names such things, as are full of real Turpitude (for, to rob, defraud, commit adultery, is filthy in reality, but named without obscenity; and to beget a Child, is an act honest and decent in it self, but obscene in the name) and alledge divers other arguments against shamefastnes: They seem not sufficiently to consider, that they

they live in a Civil Society, and not single, and at random abroad in the fields, and after the manner of Wild Beasts.

IX.

For, from the time we have given up our names to a Society, Nature it self commands us to observe the Laws and Customs of that Society; to the end, that participating of the Common Goods, we draw no Evil upon our selves, such as is the Infamy at least, or Ignominy, which follows upon that Impudence, or the want of such shamefastness, as the Customs and Manners of the Society, wherein we live, commonly prescribe, and from the observance of which in voice, aspect, and other seemly gestures, that Verecundity, which all virtuous persons so worthily commend, is derived and denominated.

X.

Finally, we adde, that it doth not a little conduce, as to Verecundity in special, so also to Continency in General, to abstain from Musick and Poetry; insomuch as they conjunctively afford those amorous songs, and passionate streins of the voice, which disfusing themselves with a certain sweet violence upon the sense, prove very strong allurements and incentives to Lust.

XI. And

X.I.

And this is the ground of our Opinion, that a Wise man ought to have no more to do with either Musick or Poetry, than what may consist with right Reason, and the severe rules of Virtue. Because, while others being most easily taken with the flattering temptations of each, indulgently devote themselves to both; the Wise man duly perceiving and foreseeing the Evil consequent upon them, doth wholly repudiate them: declaring that Musick is an allurement to drink, an exhauster of moneys, a friend to Idleness, an impediment to every good, honest and generous work; and that its sister Poetry is that, which hath in all ages corrupted mens manners, made them prone to all sorts of Vices, and chiefly to Lust, and this by the Examples of even the Gods themselves. Whom the Poets have feigned and frequently introduced as inflamed with Anger, so furiously enraged with Lust: and in their Fables we read of not only their Divisions, Animosities, Discords, Wars, Conflicts, Wounds, Deaths, but also their Complaints, Laments, Imprisonments, Coition with Mortals, and Mortal Births of Immortal Parents; and other the like Wildnesses, from which every man, in his right mind, doth abhor.

CHAP. XII.

of Lenity, opposed to Anger.

ANOTHER species of Temperance is *Lenity*, *Mansuetude* or *Mildness*; comprehending also *Clemency* and *Pity*, or *Com-miseration*. This is so excellent an Antidote against the malignity of Anger, or the Desire of Revenge; that it is worthily esteemed a most laudable Virtue: forasmuch as Anger, if high and excessive, is a perfect Madness, for the time. For, in a fit of anger, the mind is inflamed, the light of reason eclipsed, the blood boyls with choler, the eyes sparkle with fire, the breast distended and ready to burst with rage, the teeth gnash, the voice interrupted, the hairs stand on end, the face glowing with heat, and distorted with menacing postures, becomes horrid, truculent, and frightful; so that all the frame or œconomy of Nature seems wholly subverted, and the mind as well to have lost the command of it self, as to have forgotten all decency and Decorum: but then comes Lenity, and that recompenses all again, becalms the mind, and keeps it in such a becoming temper, as that it is neither moved in it self, nor suffers any passionate eruption

eruption or salley of the spirits and blood forth into the members, that may cause any the least indecorum.

But, forasmuch as anger is commonly kindled and blown into a flame by the opinion of some injury received; and no man doth an injury to another, but upon the score of either Hatred, or Envy, or Despite and Contempt: how can it be, that a Wise man should so bear an injury, as to deport himself with Lenity and sweetnes toward him, who offer'd him that injury? Why, truly, only by committing himself to the government of right Reason, by which we have already declared he is to fortifie himself against the blows of Fortune. For, he accounts an injury among Casualties, or things of meet Chance; and well knows, that it is not in his power, to make other men just, honest, and superior to the trans-

ports of unruly passions : and therefore he is as little moved by wrongs done him by men, as by the incommodities or losses sustained by misfortune, and generally by any other event occasioned by things beyond his power of ordering and controulment.

III.

He is not moved (for example) by those extream Heats and Colds of different seasons or tempests ; because he knows the Nature of such seasons to be such, as he cannot alter. Nor is he moved by injuries, which peccant, dishonest, and malevolent men do him, because it is from the depravity of their nature that they do them : and it is not in his power to amend that depravity, and make them do otherwise. Again, he conceives it not to be Congruous to Reason and Wisdom, to add one Evil to another (i. e.) to the harm arising to him from Causes without him, to superadd a greater harm from Causes within him, namely, to

Optimus injuriam ul-
ciscendi modus est, in-
ferenti ne sis similia.
Marcus Antoninus, in de-
scipio lib. 6. Sect. 6.

raise a perturbation in his mind, (by opinion) or because another man would afflict his mind with vexation and anxiety,

ety, thereupon to be so foolish, as by admiring and fomenting that vexation, to prosper that design, and gratifie the evil intention of his Enemy.

IV.

Fit it is, we confess, that a Wise man should so far look to his Good Name, and be careful of his Reputation, as not to lye open to Contempt and Scorn; seeing there are some Pleasures that arise to a man from a Good Fame, and the esteem from thence resulting; as on the contrary there are some Troubles, that arise from Contempt, and the Consequents thereof: but yet is he not to be tender of his Good Name so much for the Revenging of injuries, or offending of those that do them; as for living well and innocently, and giving no man a just cause or occasion of Contumely and Malediction. For, thus to do, is wholly in his own power: not to hinder another from discharging the malignity of his Nature upon him.

V.

Hereupon, in case a person, who hath, though without cause, conceived an anger against you, and declared himself your Adversary, shall demand any thing of you, upon pretext of expiation or satisfaction; you are not to refuse to give it him: provided,

what he demand be Lawfull, Honourable, and conducible to your certain security

*Minuti semper & infirmi est
animi, exiguae voluptatis, ut
tis i consonis sic collige, quod
vindicta Nessus magni gaudet,
quam feminis. Juv. vii. Sat. 12.*

from his rage; because he differs not from an angry and invading Dog, and so is to be appeased

with a morsel. Nevertheless nothing is either more honourable, or more safe, than to confront his malice with Innocence of life, and the security of your own Conscience, and for the rest, to declare your self to be above his injuries.

VI.

Moreover, it may come to pass, that a wise man may be sued at Law, brought to the Bar, and there in the face of the whole Court suffer not only injuries, but gross calumnies, false accusations, yea, and receive condemnation: and yet he ought still to remember, that though it be in his power to live uprightly and Virtuously, yet it is not in his power not to fall into the hands of such, as may shew themselves Envious, malignant and unjust toward him; nor to hinder them from accusing him contrary to all right and equity, or himself from receiving a sentence from unrighteous Judges. It becomes

becomes him not therefore to be angry with either his Accusers, or the Witnesses, or the Judges; but trusting in a good Conscience, still to keep up his Lenity and Tranquillity at the highest; and accounting himself far above this infortune, to entertain it without fear or trouble, and deport himself toward his Judges with constant courage and serene boldness.

VII.

Now, there is not why any man should object, that what we here advise concerning Lenity, is repugnant to what we formerly said of the Wise mans *Chastising of his offending Servants*: Because we there limited this Castigation only to Refractory, obstinately Perverse and disobedient Servants: and manifest it is, that punishment ought to be inflicted as well upon the delinquents in a private Family, as in a State or Common-wealth; and as the Prince, or Magistrate doth punish the Crimes of Subjects without anger at their Persons; so likewise may the Master of a Family punish the offences of his Servants, not only with Lenity, but Good will also to their persons.

VIII.

We add, that a Wise man is not only to bear injuries from others, with Lenity; nor only to pardon the faults of his Servants, with mildness and sweetness: but even with kindness to encourage and gratulate such as Repent of, and resolve to reform their evil ways. For, since the first degree of Reformation, is the Knowledge of ones Fault; therefore is this Gratulation and Encouragement to be given to the penitent Delinquent, that as he is affected with contrition and horror at the apprehension of the foulness of his offence, so he may be re-animated by the pulchritude of what he ought to have done formerly, or is to do in the future.

CHAP. XVII.

Of Modesty, opposed to Ambition.

Concerning this great Virtue, which is the Fourth branch of Temperance, there is very little need of saying more, than what we have formerly intimated, when we declared it not to be the part of a Wise man,

man, to affect Greatness, or Power, or Honours in a Common-wealth ; but so to contain himself, as rather to live not only privately, but even obscurely and concealed in some secure corner. And therefore the advice we shall chiefly inculcat in this place, shall be the very same we usually give to our best friends. Live private and concealed (unless some circumstance of State call you forth to the assistance of the Publick) insomuch as Experience frequently confirms the truth of that proverbial saying, *He bath well lived, who bath well concealed himself.*

II.

Certainly, it hath been too familiarly observed, that many, who had mounted up to the highest pinnacle of Honour, have been on a sudden, and as it were with a Thunder-bolt, thrown down to the bottom of Misery and Contempt : and so been brought, though too late, to acknowledge, that it is much better for a man quietly and peaceably to obey ; than by laborious Climbing up the craggy Rocks of Ambition, to aspire to Command and Sovereignty ; and to set his foot rather upon the plain and humble ground, than upon that slippery height, from which all that can be with reason expected, is a precipitous and ruinous Down-fal,

fal. Besides, are not those Grandees, upon whom the admiring multitude gaze, as upon resplendent Comets and Prodigies of Glory and Honour; are they not, we say, of all men the most unhappy, in this one respect, that their breasts swarm with most weighty and troublesome Cares, that incessantly gall and corrode their very Hearts? Beware, therefore, how you believe that such live securely and tranquilly: since it is impossible but those, who are feared by many, should themselves be in continual fear of some.

III.

Though you see them to be in a manner environed with Power, to have Navies numerous enough to send abroad into all Seas, to be in the heads of mighty and victorious Armies, to be guarded with well armed and faithful Legions; yet for all this take heed you do not conceive them to be the only Happy men, nay, that they partake so much as of one sincere Pleasure: for all these things are meer pageantry, shadows gilded, and ridiculous Dreams; insomuch as Fear and Care are not things that are afraid of the noise of Arms, or regard the brightness of Gold, or the splendor of Purple, but boldly intrude themselves even into the Hearts of Princes and Potentates, and like

like the Poets Vultur, daily gnaw and consume them.

IV.

Beware likewise, that you do not conceive, that the Body is made one whit the more strong, or healthy, by the Glory, Greatness and Treasures of Monarchy; especially when you may daily observe, that a Fever doth as violently and long hold him, who lies upon a bed of Tissue, under a Covering of Tyrian Scarlet, as him that lies upon a Mattress, and hath no Covering but Raggs; and that we have no reason to complain of the want of Scarlet Robes, of Golden Embroideries, Jewels, and ropes of Pearl, while we have a Course and easie Garment to keep away the Cold. And what if you, lying cheerfully and serenely upon a truss of clean straw, covered with raggs, should gravely instruct men, how vain those are, who with astonisht and turbulent minds gape and thirst after the Trifles of Magnificence, not understanding how few and small those things are, which are requisite to an happy life? believe me, your Discourse would be truly magnificent and High; because delivered by one, whose own happy Experience confirms it.

V. What

V.

What though your House do not shine with silver and gold Hatchments ; nor your arched roofs resound with the multiplied Echoes of loud Musick ; nor your walls be not thickly beset with golden Figures of beautiful youths holding great lamps in their extended arms, to give light to your nightly Revels and sumptuous Banquets : why yet, truly, it is not a whit less (if not much more) pleasant, to repose your wearied limbs, upon the Green Grass, to sit by some cleanly and purling stream, under the refreshing shade of some well-branched Tree, especially in the Spring time, when the head of every Plant is crowned with beautiful and fragrant Flowers, the merry Birds entertaining you with the musick of their Wild notes, the fresh Western Winds continually fanning your heats, and all Nature smiling upon you.

VI.

Wherefore, when any man may, if he please, thus live at peace and liberty abroad in the open Fields, or his own Gardens ; what reason is there, why he should affect and pursue Honours, and not rather modestly bound his Desires with the Calmness and security of that Condition ? For, to hunt after Glory, by the ostentation of Virtue,

of

of Science, of Eloquence, of Nobility, of Wealth, of Attendants, of rich Cloths, of Beauty, of Garb, and the like : seriously, it is altogether the Fame of ridiculous Vanity ; and in all things Modesty exacts no more then this, that we do not, through Rusticity, want of a decent Garb, or too much Negligence, do any thing, that doth not correspond with Civility and Decorum. For, *it is equally vile, and doth as much denote a Base or Abject mind, to grow insolent and Lofty upon the possession of these adjuncts of Magnificence : as to become Dejected, or sink in Spirit, at the Loss or want of them.*

VII.

Now, according to this rule, if a Wise man chance to have the Statues, or Images of his Ancestors, or other Renowned Persons of Former Ages ; he will be very far from being proud of them, from shewing them as Badges of Honour, from affecting a Glory from the Generosity of their Actions and Atchievements : and as far from wholly neglecting them, but will place them (as Memorials of Virtue) indifferently either in his Porch, or Gallery, or elsewhere.

VIII. Nor

Nec immo-
lum euro; se-
pelic Naturam
solito;

Nil agis hac
ira; tamen
Cauda sol-
vit, an ergo,
hanc reficit;

placido Naturam
recepit;
cumq. finu.
Lucan. lib. 7.

VIII.
Nor will he be solicitous about
the manner, or place of his Se-
pulture ; or command his Ex-
ecutors to bestow any great
Cost, or Pomp and Ceremony,
at his Funeral. The chief sub-
ject of his care will be, what
may be beneficial and pleasant
to his Successors : being well
assured, that as for his dead
Corps, it will little concern him, what
becomes of it. For to propagate Vanity
even beyond Death, is the highest mad-
ness : and not much inferior thereto is the
Fancy of some, who in their lives are a-
fraid to have their Carcasses torn by the
teeth of Wild Beasts, after their death. For,
if that be an Evil; why is it not likewise
an Evil, to have the Dead Corps burned,

Embalmed and immersed in
Honey, * to grow cold and stiff
under a ponderous Marble, to
be pressed down by the weight
of Earth and Passengers ?

* Mel enim
tanta adver-
sus putredini-
mem facili-
tate insigni-
tum est, ut
Babylonii nobilium Cedrae et cedri sepelirentur; ut Herodo-
tus in Thalia testis est.

CHAP. XVIII.

of Moderation, opposed to Avarice.

Now comes *Moderation*, or that Disposition of the Mind, which makes a man contented with a little, and than which he can hardly possess a greater good. For to be content with little, is the highest preferment, the greatest wealth in the world: as on the other side, great riches without moderation, are but great poverty. Thus, to have wherewithal to prevent Hunger, Thirst, and Cold; is a Felicity not much inferior to that of Divinity: and whoso possesses so much, and desires no more, however the world may account him poor, he really is the richest man alive.

II.

And how honest a thing is this Poverty, when it is Cheerful, Serene, and Contented with only what is sufficient, i. e. with those riches of Nature, which suffice to preserve from Hunger, from Thirst, from Cold? Truly, seeing that these riches of Nature are Terminated and easily acquirable; but those, that are coveted out of vain opinions, are difficult in the acquisition, and have no measure, no end: we ought to be highly thankful

thankful to the Wisdom and Bounty of Nature, which made those things easily procurable, that are Necessary; and those Unnecessary; that are hard to come by.

III.

Again, since it behoves a Wise man to be always Confident, that in the whole course of his life he shall never want Necessaries, doth not the very easie parability of such few, small, cheap, and common things, as are necessary, abundantly cherish that Confidence in him? when, on the other side, the Difficulty of acquiring those many, great, sumptuous and rare things, that belong to superfluity and magnificence, cannot but very much stagger and weaken it. And this clearly is the Reason, why the vulgar, though they have great possessions, do yet incessantly toil and afflict themselves in the acquisition of more: as if they feared to outlive their riches, and come to want, what, if they used with Moderation, they could never live to spend.

IV.

This considered, let us endeavour to content our selves with what is most simple and most easily procurable; remembering, that not all the wealth of the world, collected into one heap, can avail in the least measure

measure to cure the least disease, or perturbation of the Mind: whereas mean Riches, such as Nature offers to us, and are most useful to remove that indigence, which is incommodious to the body; as they are the occasion of no Care or other passion during life; so will it not be grievous to us to part with them, when we think of Death.

V.

Miserable truly, are the Minds of men; and their Hearts surrounded with blindness, in that they will not see, that Nature doth dictate nothing more to them than this: that they should supply the wants of the body, and for the rest, enjoy a well pleased mind, without care, without fear; not that they should spend their days in scraping together more than Nature knows how to make use of, and that with greediness, as if they meant to outlive Death, to prevent want in their Graves, or never behought themselves of the uncertainty of life, and how deadly a Potion we all drink at our very entrance into the World.

VI.

What though those things, which are purely Necessary, and in respect whereunto no man can be poor, do not afford those Delights, which Vulgar minds so much

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love

love and courts; yet Nature doth not want them, nor doth she in the meantime cease to afford real and sincere pleasures in the fruition of meer Necessaries, as we abundantly declared. Hereupon the Wise man stands not only so indifferently affected toward those things, in relation whereunto money is desired (such are Love, Ambition, Luxury, &c. all which require expences to maintain them) but so far above them, as that he hath no reason either to desire or care for money.

Now, as for what we said, of the *Inmensity of such Riches*, as are coveted upon the suggestion of vain Opinions; the Reason of it is this; that when Nature is satisfied with Little, vain Opinion ushering in Desire, always engageth the mind to think of something, which it doth not possess, and, as if it were really needful, converts and fixeth the Desire wholly and entirely upon it. Whence it comes, that to him, who is not satisfied with a little, nothing can ever be enough: but still the more wealth he posselleth, the more he conceiveth himself to want.

Wherfore, seeing there can never be want of a Little, the Wiseman, doubtless,

while he posseseth that little, ought to account it very great Riches : because there is no want, whereas other riches, though great in esteem, are really very small, because they want multiplication to infinity. Whence it follows, that he who thinks not his own Estate, how small soever, sufficiently ample ; though he should become Lord of the whole World , will ever be miserable. For, misery is the companion of Want ; and the same vain opinion, which first perswaded him that his own Estate was not sufficient, will continue to perswade him that one World is not sufficient, but that he wants more and more to infinity.

IX.

Have you, then, a design to make any one Rich indeed? Know, that the way is not by adding to his Riches, but by detracting from his desires. For, when having cut off all vain and superfluous desires from his breast, he shall so compose himself to the prescripts of Nature , as to covet no more than the needs and requires : then at length

shall he find himself to be a Rich man in reality, because he shall then find that nothing is wanting to him. Hereupon may you also inculcate this maxim to him; *If you live according to Nature, you shall never be poor, but if according to Opinion, you shall never be rich. Nature desires little, Opinion infinite.*

X.

Truly, this Disposition, or (if you please) Faculty of the mind, whereby a man moderating himself, cuts off the desire of whatsoever is not Necessary to Nature, and contents himself with provisions the most simple and most easily procurable; this Disposition, we say, is that, which begets that Security, that is perceived in a pleasant Retirement, and Avoidance of the Multitude; forasmuch as by the benefit thereof, when a man converseth with crouds of people, he shall want no more, than when he lives sequestred.

XI.

Finally, when a man wants this Faculty of Detracting or Abdicating from his Desires, whatever is not purely Necessary; how great is the Misery, to which he is

con-

continually subject? his mind being, like a vessel full of holes, always in filling, but never full. And certainly (that we may not insist upon this, that most who have heaped up vast masses of Wealth, have therein found only a Change, not an End of their misery; either because they loaded themselves with new Cares, to which they were not subject before; or because they gave them occasion to fall into new Vices, from the snares whereof they had formerly escaped) this alone is a very high misery; for a man to have his Appetite increased by the satisfaction of it, i. e. the more plentifully he feeds, the more to be tormented with hunger.

and gained him all his felicity, and
had nothing but CHAP. XIX.

*of Mediocrity betwixt Hope and Despair of
the Future.*

Finally, since all Cupidity, or Desire
whatever is carried to that, which is
not possessed, but proposed as possible to
be attained, and accompanied with some
Hope, of obtaining it; and that Hope, as it
were nursing and cherishing that Desire, is
accompanied with a certain pleasure; as the
opposite to *Hope*, *Desperation*, creating and
fomenting *Fear*, that what is desired may
not be obtained, is accompanied with a
certain trouble upon these considerations,
it seems necessary for us to bring up the
rear of this File of Virtues, with the dis-
course of *Mediocrity*; which is of very
great use, as well in respect of objects in the
General, either hoped for, or despised of,
in the Future; as in particular of the Dura-
tion, or rather perpetuity of life, whereof
as there is a Desire kindled in the breasts of
most men; so doth the Despair of it tor-
ment them.

II.

In the first place, therefore, we are to ad-
here to this, as a General Rule; that *what*

is

is to come, if it be in the number of simple Contingents, is neither absolutely ours, nor absolutely Not ours. More plainly; we are neither so to hope for a thing that is Contingent, as if it were certainly to come; because it may be prevented or diverted by some cross accident intervenient: Nor so to despair of it, as if it were certainly not to come; because it may fall out, that no accident may intervene to prevent or divert it. For, by the observation of this maxim, we shall reap the benefit of Moderation; so as not being destitute of all Hope, we shall not be without some Pleasure: and being altogether frustrated of our hopes, we shall be affected with no trouble.

III.

For, herein consists the Difference betwixt the Wise man and the Fool; that the Wise doth, indeed, expect things Future, but not depend upon them, and in the mean time enjoys the Goods that are present (by considering how great and pleasant they are) and gratefully remembers what are past: but the fool, fixing all his thoughts and dependance upon the Future; makes (as we said in the beginning) his whole life unpleasant and full of fears.

K 4

IV. And

IV.

And how many may we daily see, who neither remember goods past, nor enjoy present? They are wholly taken up with Expectation of Future things, and those being uncertain, they are perpetually afflicted with anguish of mind, with fear, and at length become most grievously perplexed, when they too late perceive, that they have in vain addicted themselves to the getting of Riches, or Honours, or Power, or Glory: in respect they fail of obtaining those Pleasures, with the hopes whereof being inflamed, they had undergone many and great Difficulties and Labours. That we may not say any thing of that other sort of fools, who being abject and narrow-hearted, despair of all things, and are for the most part, Malevolent, Envious, Morose, Shunners of the light, Evil-speakers, Monsters.

V.

Now the Reason, why we say, that *the wise man doth gratefully remember Goods past*, is, because we are generally too ungrateful toward the time Preterite, and do not call to mind, nor account among Pleasures, the Good things we have formerly received: forasmuch as no pleasure is more certain, than what cannot now be taken from us.

For,

For, present Goods are not yet Consummate and wholly solid; some chance or other may intervene and cut them off in half; Future things hang upon the pin of uncertainty, what is already past, is only safe and inamissible.

VII. From the same &c. nos

And among Past Goods we account not only such as we have enjoyed; but also our avoidance of all those Evils, that might have fallen upon us; and our Liberation or Deliverance from such other Evils as did fall upon us, and might have lasted much longer; as also the Recordation, Reputation, Gratulation, that we sustained them constantly and bravely.

VII.

As for the *Desire of prolonging life to Eternity* (the special Evil to be prevented by Mediocrity) we have already hinted, that a Wise man is to entertain no such desire: because thereupon instantly succeeds Desperation, which is always accompanied with trouble and anguish. And this Cogitation imports thus much, that the greater Pleasure cannot be received from an Age of infinite Duration, than may be received from this, which we know to be finite; provided a man measure the Ends of it by Right Reason.

VIII. For,

For, seeing that to measure the Ends of Pleasure by right reason, is only to conceive, that the Supreme pleasure is no other but an Exemption from Pain and Perturbation ; it is a manifest Consequence, that the Supreme Pleasure of man cannot be increased by the length, nor diminished by the shortness of Time. *IX.*

The Hopes of a more prolonged pleasure, or of a longer age, we confess, may seem to render the present pleasure more Intense ; but, it can seem so only to such, who measure the Ends of pleasure not by right Reason, but by vain opinion, and the Consequent thereof, Desire ; and who look upon themselves so, as if, when they shall cease to be, they should be sensible of some trouble from the privation of pleasure, as they might in case they should survive. And hence it comes, that perfectly to understand, that Death doth nothing concern us ; makes us fully to enjoy this Mortal life, not by adding thereunto any thing of uncertain time, but by cutting off all Desires of Immortality.

X. Where-

XIV.

X.

Wherefore, since Nature hath prescrib-
ed certain bounds or ends to the pleasures
of the Body; and the Desire of Eternal
Duration takes them wholly away: ne-
cessary it is, that the mind, or Reason super-
vene, so as by ratiocinating upon those
ends, and expunging all desires of Eternity,
to make life in all points perfect and
consummate, and us so fully content therewith,
as not to want any longer Duration.

XI.

And this Reasoning moreover, causeth,
that we shall not be frustrated of pleasure
even then, when Death shall take us by the
hand, and shew us the period of all these
mortal things, insomuch as we shall there-
by attain to the perfect, and so delectable
End of a very Good Life, rising from the
table of the World as Guests well satisfied
with the Good Entertainments of life, and
having duly performed all those Duties,
which to perform, we received life.

CHAP.

C H A P. XX.

Of Fortitude, in General.

Hitherto of Temperance, and the chief sorts of it, respective to the chief Objects of our Cupidities. We are now come to a new Lesson, *FORTITUDE*; which we called the other part of Honesty, in respect that the use of it is against Fear, and all its Causes, and that those, who behave themselves, in any Difficulty or Dangerous Enterprise, as especially in War (from which the Vulgar seem to have transferred the word to all Generous actions) not timidly and unmanly, but courageously and valiantly, are generally said to behave themselves Honestly and Becomingly.

II.

That this Virtue also is to be embraced, in order to Pleasure, may be inferred from hence; that neither the undergoing of great labours, nor the suffering of great pains, are things inviting and desirable in themselves; as likewise is not Patience, nor Affiduity, nor Watchings, nor Industry it self, which is so highly commended; nay, nor Fortitude: but the reason why we commend, and pursue them, is to the End we may

may live without Care and Fear, and so free both body and mind (as much as possible) from all molestation.

III.

For, as by the Fear of death (for example) the quiet of life is wholly perturbed, and as to yield to pains, and endure them with a dejected and weak mind, is a great misery, and by that baseness and weakness of Spirit, many have utterly lost their Parents, Friends, Country, and most themselves: so, on the other side, doth a strong and sublime mind make a man free from all Care and Anguish, insomuch as it contemns death, upon this account, that all who suffer it, are in the same case, as before they were in being; and is fortified against all pains, as being assured, that the greatest pains are soon determined by death, that small pains have many intervals of quiet, that mean pains are not above our patience, that if they be tolerable, they are to be endured with constancy, which much mitigates them, and if intolerable, he is quietly to depart the world, as a Theatre that doth not please him.

IV.

Now, from these considerations it is plain, that Timidity and unmanliness are not to be dispraised, nor Fortitude and Patience to be praised, for their own sakes:

but

but those are Rejected, because they induce Pain; and these Embraced, because they produce Pleasure.

V.

And, as for what we said of the Efficacy of Fortitude both against Fear, and all things that are woe to cause it; the intent of is, that we may understand, that they are the very same Evils, which torment when they are present, and are feared, when expected as future: and consequently that we learn not to fear those Evils, which we either feign to our selves, or any ways apprehend as to come; and with Constancy and Patience to endure those that are present.

VI.

Now, among such Evils, as we *Imagine* to our selves but are not really Future, the chiefest are those which we fear either from the Gods, as if they were Evil themselves, or could be the Authors of any Evil to us; or from Death, as if that were evil in it self, or brought us to some eternal Evil after it: & among such Evils, as are in possibility, and may come, and do sometimes come and affect us with pain and trouble; they are all such, as infer either Pain upon the Body, or Discontent upon the Mind.

VII. Those

VII. Those which produce Pain, are Diseases, Scoarings, Fire, Swords &c; and those which induce Discontent, are External Evils, and either Publique, of which sort are Tyranny, Wars, destruction of one Country, Pestilence, Famine, and the like; or Private, of which sort are Servitude, Banishment, Imprisonment, Infamy, Loss of Friends, Wife, Children, Estate, &c.

CHAP. VI.

Now, the difference betwixt all these things, on the one party and pain and discontent on the other, is this; that Pain and Discontent are absolute evils in themselves: the others are evils only Respectively, or as they may be the Causes of pain and discontent; nor is there any reason why they should be avoided, unless in that respect only.

Upon the Chief of these Causes of fear we shall touch, and in order as they are here enumerated. In the meantime be pleased to observe, that Fortitude is a Disposition of the mind; not ingenerate by Nature, but acquired by long consulting with Reason. For Fortitude is very much different from Audacity, Ferocity, inconsiderate Temerity, which is found even in the Brute Animals; and

and being proper to man, and to such men only as act according to Prudence, and the advice of right Reason; is not to be measured by the hot Temperament and strength of the Body, but by the firmness of the Mind, constantly adhering to an honest intention or purpose.

CHAP. XXI.

Of Fortitude, opposed to the Fear of the Gods.

In the first place it seems convenient, that we discuss a certain Twofold Fear, much transcending all others; forasmuch as if any thing hath produced the Supreme Pleasure, and that which is proper to the Mind; doubtless, it hath been the Expunction of all such Opinions, as have impressed the greatest Fear upon the Mind. For, such is the condition of miserable Mortals, that they are generally led, not by sound opinions, but by some certain Affection void of Reason; and so, not defining Evil by reality, but imagination, they render themselves obnoxious to, and frequently suffer as high perturbations from such things, as they only

only Imagine to themselves, as if they were Real.

II.

And that, which is the Ground of the Greatest Feat, and consequently of the Greatest Perturbation to men, is this; that conceiving there are certain *Blissful and Immortal Natures* (which they call Gods) in the World, they do yet think them to have such Wills, such Passions, such Operations, as are plainly repugnant to those Attributes of Beatitude and Immortality; such are perpetual Sollicitude, Implications, Fits of Anger and Kindness: and hereupon they infer, that Losses and Afflictions are by way of punishment, derived to Evil men, and Protection and Benefits, by way of reward and encouragement, derived to Good men, from the Gods. For, Men, being nutted up in their own, i.e. Humane affections, imagine and admit Gods in most things like themselves: and what they find correspondent to their own inclinations and passions; the very same they conclude to be incompetent to the Deities.

III.

Hereupon it cannot be express, how great unhappiness Mankind hath drawn upon it self, by ascribing such attributes to the Gods, as resemble those of Humane na-

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ture,

ture, and especially those of Anger and Vindictiveness; in respect whereof mens minds being made low and abject, as if the Gods perpetually threatned to call them to a severe account for their actions, and to inflict punishment upon them: you shall scarcely find a man, who is not appaled and strook with terror, at every clap of Thunder, at every Earth-quake, at every high wind, at every storm at Sea, and the like natural occurrents.

IV.

But, so are not Those, who being educated in the School of Reason, have learned, that the Gods live in perpetual security and Tranquillity; and that their Blissful Nature is so far removed from us and our Affairs, as that they can neither be Pleased, nor Displeased at our actions. And, unfeignedly, if they were touched with Anger at our misdeeds, or heard the prayers of men: the whole race of man would soon be destroyed; there being not an hour, wherein Millions of men do not imprecate mischief and destruction each to other.

V.

Be very Cautious, therefore, that when you have conceived *God* to be an *Immortal and Blissful Nature* (or Animal, as the common Notion, concerning God, doth suggest) you

you do not destroy that Conception, by giving any other Attribute to him, which may be either inconsistent with, or repugnant to those of his Beatitude and Immortality.

VI.

Gods, in truth, there are ; for the Knowledge of them is evident, as we have elsewhere declared : but, they are not such as men commonly conceive and describe them to be. For, when they have described them to be Immortal and Blissful, they contradict themselves, by affixing other Repugnant Attributes upon them ; as that they are always taken up with businessthem selves, and create busines for others ; that they are affected with pleasure or displeasure at the good or bad Actions of men ; that they are delighted with humane adoration and sacrifices, &c. all which pre-suppose great Disquiet, Imbecillity, Fear, and the want of external assistance.

VII.

Nor need you fear, that this Tenent should subject you to the censure of being *Impious* ; because, in truth, He is not Impious, who denies and casheirs the Vulgar Gods of the multitude : but he who ascribes to the Gods the opinions of the multitude. For, those are not Genuine Prenotions, but False Opinions, which are common-

ly delivered by men, concerning the Gods.

VIII.

By the same reason likewise, he is not the truly *Pious* man, who bows down upon every stone, sacrificeth upon every Altar, and besprinkles the doors of every Temple with the blood of victims: but, *He*, who contemplating all things with a serene and quiet mind, frames to himself, out of a genuine Prenotion, true and correspondent conceptions concerning the Divine Nature; and being thereunto induced, not by hope or reward, but merely by apprehension of the Majesty and Supreme Excellency of its essence, doth love it, and worship it with the highest Reverence and Veneration of his mind; and admitting no such Cogitations, as may suggest any Opinion repugnant to its Attributes, and destructive to the Veneration due unto it, doth thereby exempt himself from that base fear, which others suffer, in whose minds that Contrariety of Attributes doth beget the highest and most lasting of all Perturbations.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXII.

*Of Fortitude, opposed to the Fear of
Death.*

THE other thing which invades, and strikes the Minds of men with extreme Fear and Terror, is *Death*; and this, because of we know not what Everlasting Evils, that are expected immediately to ensue thereupon (and that's very strange, you'll say, that men should fear to suffer Evil, then when they shall be deprived of all sense, and utterly cease to be) they being ignorant, that all those solemn stories, that are commonly told of Hell, Rhadamanth, the Furies, &c. are the meer Fictions of Poets: and that if they contain any thing of truth in them, they are but cunning allusions to the miseries, which many men suffer during life, since those, who are incessantly vexed with vain Fears, superfluous Cares, insatiable Desires, and other violent Passions, lead lives so truly miserable, as that they may well be said, to suffer the torments of Hell.

I I.

That you may exempt your self, therefore, from these Terrors; accustom your

mind to this thought, *That Death doth nothing concern us;*

and upon this Argument: whatever of Good or Evil we are capable of in life, we are capable thereof only in respect of our Sense; but, Death is a Privation of all Sense, therefore, &c. That Death is a Privation of all Sense, is consequent from hence, that it is a Dissolution; and what is once dissolved, must henceforth remain without all Sense. So that Death seems a thing most easily Contemptible; insomuch as it is an ineffectual Agent, and in vain threatens pain, where the Patient is destroyed, and so ceaseth to be capable of pain.

III.

True it is, indeed, and too true, that men generally abhor Death, sometimes because they look upon it as the Greatest of Pains, sometimes because they apprehend it as the cessation of all their enjoyments, or privation of all things that are dear to them in life; but in both these Respects, altogether without cause: since this thing, *Not-to-live, or Not-to-be,* ought to be no occasion of Terror; because when once we come to that, we shall have no faculty left whereby to know, that *Not-to-live* hath any thing of Evil in it.

IV.

I V.

Hereupon we may conclude that those are great Fools who abhor to think, that after Death their Bodies should be torn by wild beasts, burned in the flame of the funeral pile, devoured by worms, &c. for, they do not consider, that then they shall not be, and so not feel, nor complain, that they are torn, burned, devoured by corruption or worms. And that those are Greater Fools, who take it grievously, that they shall no longer enjoy the conversation of their Wives, Children, Friends, no longer do them good offices, nor afford them their assistance; for these do not consider, that then they shall have no longer Relation to, nor Desire of Wife, Children, Friends, or any thing else.

V.

We said, that *Death* (accounted the King of Terrors, and most horrid of all Evils) doth nothing concern us, because, while we are, Death is not; and when Death is, we are not; so that he, who profoundly considers the matter, will soon conclude that Death doth concern neither the Living, nor the Dead; not the living, because it yet toucheth them not, not the Dead, because they are not.

*Natura sic se
habet, ut quo-
modo initium
rerum omni-
um ortus no-*

*nster afferat; sic exiitum Mors; quia ut nihil pertinet ad nos an-
te ortum, sic nihil post mortem pertinebit. In quo quid potest
esse mali, cum mors nec ad vivos pertineat, nec ad mortuos? Al-
teri nulli sunt; alteros non attingit. Cicer, Tuscul. lib. I.*

VI.

VI.

And, as the assurance of this that Death nothing concerns us, doth exempt us from

*Paratus exire sum ;
& ideo fruor vita, quia
quamdiu futurum hoc
sit, non nimis pendo.*
Seneca Epist. 61.

the greatest of Terrors, so also doth it make us to enjoy life to the most advantage of pleasure, not by adding thereunto any thing of uncertain Time, but by Detracting all desire of Immortality. For, in life there can be nothing of Evil to him, who doth perfectly understand, that there can be nothing of Evil in the privation of life.

VII.

Again, He cannot be excused of Folly, who saith, that He fears Death, not because of any Trouble or Anguish that it can bring, when it comes ; but because of the perpetual Grief, and Horror, wherewith it afflicts the mind, till it comes, or while it is expected : forasmuch as that, which can bring no trouble or anguish with it, when it comes, ought not to make us sad before it comes. Certainly, if there be any thing of Incommodity, or Fear in the busyness of Death, it is the fault of him that is Dying, not of Death it self: nor is there any trouble in Death, more than there is after it, and it is no less folly to fear Death, than to fear old Age, since as old Age follows

close

close upon the heels of youth, so doth Death upon the heels of old Age.

VIII.

Further, we are to hope at least, that when we come to the point of death, and are even at the last gasp, either we shall feel no pain, or such as will be very short ; for as much as no pain that is Great, can be Long ; and so every man ought to be confident, that though the dissolution of his Soul and Body be accompanied with some torment ; yet after that's once past, he shall never feel more.

IX.

That Philosopher was very ridiculous, who admonisheth the young man to live Honestly, and the old to die Honestly ; because a Good Life and a Good Death are not things to be parted, and the Meditation of living Honestly and dying Honestly, is one and the same : and this in respect that a young may die immaturely ; and to an old man something of life is remaining, and the last act of his life is a part, yea, and the Crown of his whole life.

X.

And both young and old are to consider this, that though man may provide for his Security, as to other things, yet against Death there is no security, the youngest nor strongest cannot promise themselves immunity

immunity from it, for so much as one hour ; all men living as it were in a City without Walls, without Gates, to keep out that common Enemy.

XI.

Moreover a young man may die Happy, who considers with himself, that should he live a thousand years, yet he could but see and act over the same things again : and an old man may live unhappy , who, like a vessel full of holes, receives the Goods of life only to let them run through him, * and so is never full of them, nor as a sober Guest of Nature, after a plentiful meal of all her best dishes, willing to rise and go take his rest.

* Cur non ut
plenus vita
conviva re-
cedis ?

Lucret. lib. 3.
Rarus, qui ex-
acto conten-
tas tempore

vitz, Cedit, uti conviva satur. *Flaccus, Satyr. 1.*

XII.

This considered, we are not to account an old man Happy, in that he dyed full of years, but in that he dyed full of Goods, and sated with the World.

XIII.

Finally, most of all foolish and ridiculous is he, who saith, it is good either not to be born at all, or to die as soon as born. For, if he speak this in Earnest, why doth he not presently

presently rid himself of life, it being very easie for him so to do, in case he hath well deliberated upon the matter beforehand? And, if in jest; he is perfectly mad, because these are things that admit not of jesting. Again, in life there is something amiable in it self; and therefore he is as much to be reprehended, who desires Death, as he that is afraid of it. For, what can be so ridiculous, as for a man to desire Death, when himself makes his life unquiet by the fear of Death? or out of a weariness of life, to fly to the Sanctuary of Death, when his own Imprudence and Irregular course of life, is the only cause of that weariness?

XIV.

Every man, therefore, ought to make it his care, so to live, as that life may not be ingrate or tedious to him; and not to be willing to part with life, till either Nature, or some intolerable Case call upon him to surrender it. And in that respect, we are seriously to perpend whether is the more Commodious, for us to stay till Death come to us, or to go and meet it. For, though it be an Evil, indeed, to live in Necessity; yet is there no necessity for us to live in necessity: since Nature hath been so kind as to give us, though but one door into the world, yet many doors out of it.

XV. But,

XV.

But, albeit, there be some Cases so extreme, as that in respect of them we are to hasten and fly to the Sanctuary of Death, lest some power intervene and rob us of that liberty of quitting life: yet nevertheless are we not to attempt any thing in that kind, but when it may be attempted conveniently, and opportunely; and when that time comes, then are we to dispatch and leap over the battlements of life bravely. For, neither is it fit for him, who thinks of flight to sleep: nor are we to despair of a happy Exit even from the greatest Difficulties, in case we neither hasten before our time, nor let it slip when it comes.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXIII.

Of Fortitude against Pain of the Body.

Contemp[or]al Pain is that alone, which deserves the name of Evil in it self; and which indeed would carry the Reason of the Greatest of Evils, if so be our own delusive opinions had not created and pulled upon our heads another sort of pain, called the *pain of the Mind*; which many times becomes more grievous and intolerable than any pain of the Body whatever, as we have formerly deduced. For, Discontent of mind, conceived upon the los[s] of Riches, Honours, Friends, Wife, Children, and the like; doth frequently grow to that height, that it exceeds the sharpest pains of the Body: but still that which gives it both being and growth, is our own Opinion, which if right and sound, we should never be moved by any such loss: Whatever; in regard that all such things are without the circle of our selves, and so cannot touch us but by the intervention of Opinion, which we coin to our selves. And thereupon we may infer, that we are not subject to any other real Evil, but only the Pain of the Body: and that the mind ought to complain of nothing, which

which is not conjoyned to some pain of the body, either present, or to come.

II.

The Wise man, therefore, will be very cautious, that he do not wittingly draw upon himself any Corporal pain; nor do any action, whereupon any such pain may be likely to ensue: unless it be in order either to the avoidance of some greater pain, that would otherwise certainly invade him; or the comparation of some Greater pleasure dependent thereupon; as we have formerly inculcated. This considered, we may very well wonder at those [Philosophers] who accounting Health, which is a state of Indolency, a very great Good, as to all other respects; do yet, as to this respect, hold it to be a thing meerly Indifferent: as if it were not an indecent playing with words, or rather a high piece of Folly, to affirm, that to be in pain, and to be free from pain, is one and the same thing.

But, in case any Necessity either of his native Constitution, in respect whereof his body is infirm and obnoxious to Diseases; or of any External violence done him, which (so subject to Casualties and the injuries of others, is the condition of frail man) he could not prevent or avoid; (for experience

ence attesteth) that a Wise and Innocent person may be wounded by his malicious Enemies ; or called to the bar, impleaded, condemned, and beaten with Rods, or otherwise cruelly tormented by Tyrants) we say, in case either of these shall have brought pain upon him: then is it his part, to endure that pain with Constancy and Bravery of mind, and patiently to expect either the Solution, or Relaxation of it.

IV.

For, certainly, Pain doth never continue long in the Body; but, if it be Great and Highly intense, it ceaseth in a short time, because either it is determined of its self, and succeeded if not by absolute Indolency, yet by very great mitigation; or is determined by Death, in which there can be no pain. And as for that pain, which is lassings, it is not only gentle and remis in itself, but also admits many lucid intervals, so that there are not many days, nay, not hours, in which the body may enjoy not only ease, but very much pleasure also.

V.

And may we not observe, that all long or Chronique Diseases have many more hours of Ease and quiet, than of pain and trouble? For, (to omit this, that if a Disease encrease our Thirst, it doth as much increase our pleasure

pleasure in drinking) they give us time for our Recotion, frequent respites to hold comfortable Conferences with our Friends, leasure to recreate our selves with some gentle Game, and admit many and long inter-vals of ease, in which we may apply our selves to our studies and any other necessary affairs. Whereupon it is most evident, that Great pain cannot be Long; nor Long pain Great: and so, we may console our selves against the Violence of pain, by an assurance of the shortness of it; and with the Remissness against the Diurnity of it.

VI.

Let this, therefore, be our frequent suc-
-cour, that *No pain is
either Intolerable, or
Perpetual*; because, if
it be long, it must be
light; if great, short.
Provided always, that we remember the
ends or bounds prescribed to things by Na-
ture; and do not by our own opinion adde
any thing thereunto, which may make our
pain greater, or us to apprehend it to be
greater, than really it is. For the only way
to heighten pain to the degree of intolera-
ble, is to exasperate it by impatience, and
oppress and wear out nature by esseminate

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Complainings: whereas, on the other side, nothing doth so much alleviate, mitigate, and blunt the edge of any pain, as Constancy, and Customs of suffering; since then it comes, that a Wise man, who hath been used to diseases and pains, doth very often rejoice and smile even in the highest fury of his sickness.

VII.

Thus much we can testify of our friend *Metrodorus*; who hath at all times born himself undauntedly, and with exemplary Constancy, as against Death, so against all Pain. For concerning *our selves*, we need not say much; it being very familiar to us, to suffer such tortures of the Bladder and Bowels, as none can be greater: and yet, as we find them fully compensated with that alacrity of mind, which redounds to us from the remembrance of our Philosophy, and former Inventions; so do we entertain them with that Constancy and Patience, as that we are not destitute of very great delights even in those very days, wherein we are most tormented with those sharp Fits of the Stone and Colick.

VIII.

And indeed, this is the very Reason, why we formerly said, that a wise man, though invaded and surrounded with the cruellest of

torments, may yet keep possession of his happiness; because he doth both by his Patience soften that Necessity which he cannot break; and as much as possible withdraw his mind from being concerned in the sufferings of his body, conversing no more with it, than as with a fragil and complaining part. He reflects the eye of his mind backward, and considers what Honest, what Generous and Magnanimous Actions he hath at any time done; and fixing his cogitations upon those things, which he hath most admired, and which have most delighted him; he recreates his mind with the remembrance of Past Goods, for which he is very far from shewing himself Ungrateful, as Unwise men usually are.

He considers, that he can do nothing more worthy than Virtue and Wisdom, which he professeth, than not to yield the victory to pain, the most hard to be sustained of all things; than to hold up his head nobly in so difficult a conflict; to vanquish so potent and malicious an Enemy; and at length to make so perfect a Conquest thereof, as that the very Remembrance of it will be at all times delightful, and especially in the time of absolute Indolency; which will be so much the more Grateful,

by

by how much the greater pain shall have preceded, as a Calm, or Heaven is always most welcome after a Tempest.

X.

Now, if a Wise man is not without his Alleviations and Comforts even in the most Grievous pain; what shall we say of him in Remiss and Gentle pains, or in the loss of some Member, or privation of some one of his Senses? Truly, it was not without good reason, that we formerly said, that *a Wise man might still be happy, though deprived of the best of his senses, his sight:* for, if the Night doth not diminish the Happiness of life; why should Blindness, that so neerly resembles Night, do it? and however he may want some pleasures, that depend upon the light; yet are there many others that lie open to his enjoyment, and what is much above all others, *the pleasure of Contemplation.*

XI.

For, seeing that to a wise man, *to live, is to Think,* certainly his Thoughts are not beholding to the assistance of his Eyes, in the busines of investigating Truth. And that man, to whose Doctrine we sometimes gave up our Name, did live long and happy, without being able to distinguish of Colours: but, without the Notion of Things,

he could not have lived happy. Nay, that Great man was of opinion, that the Perspicacity of the Mind was very much dimmed by the sight of the eyes: and while others could scarcely be said, to see the things, that were before them; the opticks of his reason flew abroad into all Infinity, nor could the acies of his mind be terminated by the Extreams of the Universe.

CHAP. XXIV.

Of Fortitude, against Discontent of Mind.

YOU may remember, we said even now, that all Discontent of Mind is conceived for such things, that are External Evils, and the Contraries to those Goods that we most love and desire. For, men usually call some things Adverse, and others Prosperous: and we may generally observe, that the Mind, which is elevated and insolent with Prosperity, and dejected with Adversity; is low, abject and base. This considered, you may easily collect, that all we should in this place say, concerning Evils inducing Discontent, and in respect where-

of, we have need of Fortitude; may be sufficiently inferred from what we formerly said, concerning those Goods, that are the General Objects of our Desires or Cupidities, and in respect whereof we have need of Temperance.

Let this General Axiom, therefore, suffice; that *Discontent of Mind is not grounded upon Nature, but upon mere Opinion of Evil;* and in respect thereof it becomes necessary, that every man be in Discontent, who conceives himself to be under some Evil, whether only prevised and expected, or already come upon him. For, how comes it, that a Father, whose Son is killed, is not a whit less cheerful or merry, if he know not of the death of his Son, than if he were yet alive and in health? or, that he, who hath lost much of his good fame abroad, or all his goods and Cattel by robbery at home; is not at all sensible of either loss till he hears of it? Is it not Opinion alone, which makes him sad and discontented thereupon? Certainly, if Nature it self were the Author of that sadness, the Fathers mind would be struck with a sense of the loss of his Son, in the same moment wherein he was slain; and in like manner, he that hath suffered Detraction from his honour, or been robbed of

his Goods and Cattel, would in the same instant receive intelligence of his loss, from the secret Regret impressed upon his mind,

III.

To the production of Discontent, therefore, in the mind, it is absolutely necessary, that Opinion (not Nature) intervene betwixt the supposed Evil and the Mind. However, that you may be the more confirmed in this truth, be pleased to observe this; If a man have an Opinion, that such a one is his true Son, who was indeed begotten by another man; and again, believe, that such a one is not his Son, though himself be the right Father of him: let it be told him, that he, whom he accounts not to be his true Son, but really is so, is Dead; and he shall never be moved at the sad tidings: but let him hear of the death of the other, whom he took for his true Son, but really was not so, and he shall instantly be moved at the news, and suddenly break forth into sorrow and laments. And this, not from any Natural Instinct, or Sentiments Paternal: but only from the delusive suggestions of Opinion, that the one, who was his Son, was not so; and that the other, who was not his Son, was so.

IV. Hence

Hence is it a perspicuous Truth, that those things, for which the mind becomes male-content and contristate, are not Real Evils to us; forasmuch as they are without the orb of our Nature, and can never touch us immediately or of themselves, but by the mediation of our own Opinion. And this was the ground of our former Assertion, that it is Reason alone which makes life happy and pleasant, by expelling all such false Conceptions or Opinions, as may any way occasion perturbation of mind. For, it is Discontent alone, that perturbs the mind, and wholly subverts the Tranquillity, and so the jucundity thereof.

V.

But, how can Reason expel all such erroneous Opinions, after they have once taken possession of the Mind? Why, truly, only by teaching the Wise man to arm his mind against the blows of Fortune. For those very External things, which persuad-ed by opinion, we conceive to be Good, and

Non possidentes propriis mortales bona, Sed jus Deorum, nostra dispensatio est: Et commoda, cum volent, repentunt Dii. Eurip. Phoen. v. 139. Iphig. 3. 149. Marc. Act. 1. lib. 12.

for the loss of which we conceive such Discontent of mind; are also justly called the Goods of Fortune; because they are not really our own, but may be possessed, or taken away, as Fortune pleaseth.

VI.

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ca nos ex ad-
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to. Marc. Sic
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posside, ut di-
mittere pro-
elvis sis. *Marc.*

Antonin. de scipio lib. 8. Sect. 33. in codice Gatakeriano.

This the Wise man well knowing, accounts such goods no more his own, than other mens, and doth never so possess them, as not to be willing and ready at any time to part with them. For, he hath divested his mind of that opinion, which would perswade him, that they are real Goods, that they are his own, that they are permanent and inamissible, and put on that right opinion, which assures him, that they are neither really Good, nor absolutely his own, nor inamissible, but transitory and subject to be blown away from him by every gust of adverse Fortune. And hereupon he foresees what to do, in case he shoule be deprived of them; that is, not to cruciate himself

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with vain sorrow and fruitless Discontent; but to take it quietly and contentedly, that Fortune hath redemanded what she did not give, but only lend him.

VII.

Certainly, to those, who account it an Evil to be deprived of these External Goods, it cannot but prove of grievous consequence, that Premeditation should increase those Evils which it might very much have diminished at least, if not wholly prevented. For by this they come to be discontented not only at present infortunes, but also at such as they apprehend are likely to befall them, but perhaps may never befall them: and so every Evil is troublesome, not only when it comes, but when it is only expected, though it never comes. Doubtless, it is most vain and foolish in a man, to run into a voluntary misery; and he that doth so, shall always be Discontented, either by receiving, or thinking of Evil: for, whoso always thinks, that some Evil or Adversity may befall him; this very thought doth prove an Eternal Evil to him.

VIII.

And, as for the Wise man, in case it happen, that by being long accustomed to the pos-

possession and use of the Goods of Fortune, he hath not totally expunged out of his mind that Opinion, that they are real Goods, and wholly his own ; and so some little of Fortune intervene, and give him a blow, that may put him to some small Regret and Discontent : in this case, he is for the Alleviation of that his Discontent, to have recourse to those two things formerly prescribed by us, as the most potent remedies for the mitigation of Pain in the body; viz. Avocation of his thoughts from his loss and the Causes of it; and Revocation of them to those things, which he knows to be Grateful and Pleasant to his Mind.

IX.

For, the Mind of a Wise man is instructed to conform to the Laws of Reason, and precisely follow the conduct thereof ; and Reason forbids him to fix his cogitations upon those things, which may advance and foment his discontent, and by that means helps him to abstract his thoughts from all regret, & convert them upon Goods either to come, or formerly enjoyed, and especially such as he hath frequently found to be delightful.

X. And,

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And, what though sad and importune thoughts are apt frequently to recur; yet is he still to insist upon that Avocation and Revocation of his Mind : because the mind, by continual Diversion to other objects, is brought by little and little to wear out and deface the Characters of sorrow imprinted upon it by a misfortune; nor, indeed, doth Time conduce to the cure of Discontent, by any other way, but only by exhibiting various occasions of diversion, by which the mind being by degrees taken off from the Cause of its trouble, is brought at length to almost absolute forgetfulness thereof.

CHAP. XXV.

Of Justice in General.

THus far of that part of Honesty, which concerns Ones self: we are now come to the other, that relates also to others, and belongs to a man as living in a Civil Society; and that is *Justice*. For, most certain it is, that Justice is as it were the common Tye, or Ligament, which holds men together in peace, and without which no Society can subsist: insomuch as it is a *Virtue*, which gives to every one his *Due*, and provides that *Injury* be done to none.

U.

What we have formerly said, of the Foundation and Benefits of the other Virtues, hitherto handled; doth exactly correspond also to this Virtue: for as we have taught, that Prudence, Temperance and Fortitude are inseparably conjoyned to Pleasure; so may we affirm the very same of Justice, which doth not only never cause Harm to any man, but on the contrary, always preserve and nourish something,

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that may calm and quiet the minds of men; and this as well by its own and Natures power; as by a constant Hope, that none shall ever want any of those things, which pure and depraved Nature can desire.

III. And to continue

And, as Temerity, Lust, and Cowardise do always excruciate the mind, and stir up troubles; so is it impossible, that a mind, which lodgeth Injustice, should at any time be quiet and at peace either with it self, or others; because though such a mind should attempt any unjust action, with the greatest secrecy imaginable; yet can it not perswade it self, that the Injustice thereof shall never be brought to light. And though some may think themselves so great, as to be walled in and fortified against all revenge of their Injustice, by their Riches, Honours, Powers, &c. yet do they still lye open to the revenge of an Evil Conscience, which whispers them in the ear, every moment, that all those solicitudes and perturbations, wherewith their minds are unceasantly tormented, are inflicted upon them, by the Immortal Gods, by way of punishment for their im-probity.

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For, those Desires that arise from simple Nature are easily satisfied: and all others, that are derived from vain Opinions, are not to be obeyed, but suppressed; because they incite us to the fruition of nothing that is truly Desiderable; and always there is more of Detriment accruing from the injury it self, than there is of Emolument or advantage from those things that are gotten by that injury.

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Nevertheless, no man can say rightly, that Justice is a Virtue to be wished for, embraced, and pursued, immediately for it self; but mediately, or for the great pleasure it brings with it. For, to be beloved by, and to be Dear to others is very Pleasant; why? only because it conduceth to the greater Safety, Peace, and Pleasure of a mans life. This considered, we infer, that Improbity is to be avoided, not only in respect of those many and great external Incom-

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CHAP. XXVI.

Of Right, or Just; from whence Justice is named.

IN the first place, therefore, forasmuch as it is evident, that *Justice* is denominated from hence, that the *Right* of another man is conserved, or that what is *Right* or *Just*, is performed: it is worth our knowing what that is, which ought to be accounted *Right* or *Just*.

II.

Since *Justice* was excogitated and instituted in order to the *Common Goods*, necessary it is, that that *Right* or *Just*, to which *Justice* hath respect, should be such a certain *Good*, as may be in *Common* to all and every single member of the Society. And, because every one, by the direction of Nature, desires what is *Good* for Himself: it is also necessary, that what is *Right*, or *Just*, be something of Natures own institution, and so may be called *Natural*.

III.

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CHAP: *Deinde quod est in aliis virtutibus et in justitia. Deinde de iustitia. Deinde de beneficencia. Deinde de gratitudine. Deinde de pietate. Deinde de observantia. Deinde de amicitia.*

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IN the first place, therefore, forasmuch as it is evident, that *Justice* is denominated from hence, that the *Right* of another man is conserved, or that what is *Right* or *Just*, is performed: it is worth our knowing what that is, which ought to be accounted *Right* or *Just*.

II.

Since *Justice* was excogitated and instituted in order to the *Common Good*; necessary it is, that that *Right* or *Just*, to which *Justice* hath respect, should be such a certain *Good*, as may be in *Common* to all and every single member of the Society. And, because every one, by the direction of Nature, desires what is *Good* for Himself: it is also necessary, that what is *Right*, or *Just*, be something of Natures own institution, and so may be called *Natural*.

III.

Nor is it for nothing that we touch upon this particular; because it sometimes comes to pass, that in a Society that may be prescribed for *Right* and *Just*, which is not re-

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ally Good for the Society : and so being not Natural, or according to the dictates of Nature, it cannot, but by abuse, be reputed Right or Just ; since that, which hath the true reason of Right or Just Natural, is such, as that it is not only prescribed as Profitable and Good, but is also Re-

ally so.

IV.

To speak plainly and properly, therefore; Right or Just Natural, is nothing else but *Tessera Utilitatis*, the Symbol of Utility, proposed and agreed upon by the concurrent votes of all in the Society, to the end, that they may be kept from mutually harming each other, and that each one may live securely ; which as it is a Good, so doth every man, by the direction of Nature, desire it.

V.

Here we take Profitable and Good, for the same thing; and judge that there are two Reasons, that require the preservation of Right : the one, that it may be Profitable, or respect the Common Utility , i. e. the Common Security ; the other, that it be Prescribed by the Common Consent of the Society, for nothing is compleatly Just, but what the Society hath, by common Consent,

or

or common Pact, decreed to be observed
and kept inviolate.

V I.

And hence is it, that the name of Right or Just is usually given to each of these Two; since not only what is profitable is said to be Just, but also the very Paction, or Agreement, or Prescription of the Society; which is also called Law, as being that, which expressly prescribes to every one what is Profitable or Just.

V II.

Some there are, we know, who conceive and affirm, that all things, that can be said to be Just, are so of their own proper and invariate Nature; and that Laws do not make them to be just, but only declare and prescribe them to be so, in respect of their own Nature: but truly the matter is far otherwise, the case in this point being as in most other things that are Useful and Profitable, as in those which concern Health, and many others of the like nature; of which some may be beneficial to one man, and hurtful to another, and so being oftentimes misapplied, they fail of the end proposed, as well in common, as in private.

VIII.

And, certainly, since every thing is every

No

where,

where, always, and by all men, apprehended to be such, as really it is in its own Nature; because that Nature is invariate: we may justly demand of the Authours of that opinion, whether or no such things as are accounted just at sometimes, in some places, by some men, are so at all times, in all places, and to all men? Ought not such to have observed, that many of those things, that are constituted by Laws, and so accounted Lawful and Just; are not so constituted, nor accounted among all Nations; but are partly neglected as things Indifferent, by many; and partly rejected as Hurtful, and condemned as absolutely Unjust, by as many others? And are there not some, who accept some things as Universally Profitable, which really are rather universally Destructive; and accordingly embrace and enact them to be Universally Accommodate, in case they judge them to be Accommodate, and to promise some General Emolument to that particular Society, in which they live?

IX.

This duly considered, the most that can be said, in favour of that Opinion, is only this; that that is Universally Just, which is Profitable, or conform to the Notion of Right or Just, even now described: for, in special, indeed, as Utility is varied among vari-

various Nations, so also is Right or Just, so as what may be accounted and really is Just in respect of one Nation, may be Unjust in respect of another. And, therefore, if it be demanded, *Whether or no the same thing be Right or Just among all men?* our answer must be, that as to the General, it is the same, as being somewhat that is profitable in mutual Society; but as to particulars, it may come not to be the same among all men, particular Countries, and particular Gaules, in several Nations considered.

X.
And (that we may deduce a few observations from hence) whatever is by Experience found to be Profitable to mutual Society, or the Common participation of such things, as are reputed Just; that certainly hath truly and fully the nature of Just, in case it be such, as that the Utility thereof may be extended to all; but, if any man shall determine and establish such a thing for Just, and the same shall notwithstanding happen not to be Profitable to mutual Society; in that case, it doth not fulfill the nature of Just.

XI.

Again, and though the Utility of that, which was accounted Just, and so embrac'd, doth sometimes fail; yet nevertheless, if there be some Utility therein sometimes,

so that it respond to the Notion, which we have given of what is Just; it is truly Just, for that time: especially with those, who do not confound themselves with vain loquacity, and look into Humane Affairs with the eye of more General observation.

XII.

Finally, where, no new Circumstance of Affairs intervening, those very things, that were accounted and decreed to be Just, concerning the actions of men, are found by experience, not to be fully correspondent or congruous to the Notion of Just: there are they in no sort just. But, where, upon the innovation or change of affairs, those things, which were formerly decreed to be just, have ceased to be Profitable: there also do they cease to be just; because, when they cease to be Profitable to mutual Society, they at the same time cease to be congruous to the Notion of Just.

CHAP. XXVII.

of the Original of Right and Justice.

But, that we may go much higher, and derive Right or Just from its first Fountain or *Original*; it appears that Right and Justice are as antient as Societies of men.

II.

For, in the Beginning or first age of the World, men lived wandering up and down, like wild Beasts, and suffered many incommodities both from the fury of Wild Beasts, and the inclemency of the Aër; till, Reason advising them thereunto, they convened and conjoined themselves in certain Companies or Societies, that so they might the better provide against those incommodities, by Building themselves Huts or Cottages, and furnishing themselves with other Defensatives against the fury of Wild Beasts, and against the injuries of weather. But, in this state every one being desirous to have his particular condition better than another, and striving to make it so; there arose various Contentions and Clasfings among them, about Food, Women, and other Commodities, which the stronger always took.

took from the weaker : until at length they found, that they could not live secure and commodiously together ; unless they made a Common Agreement, and entred into mutual obligations not to do Harm or Injury each to other ; and that in case any one did harm or injure another, the rest would punish him for it accordingly.

III.

And this was the first Tye, or Bond of Society ; which, as it supposed, that every one might have something peculiar, and proper to himself, or that might be called his own, as being his either by primire usurpation, or by gift, or by purchase, or by invention, or by acquisition of his own industry, or otherwise : so did it provide, decree and enact, that the same should continue entirely his Own, till he should willingly and freely alienate his property therein, by disposing of it to another. And this Bond, or General Paction among them, was nothing else but a Common Law, which all were equally bound to observe, and which did confirm to every man a certain Right or Faculty of Using and Disposing of whatever was his own, according as himself thought meet. Whereupon that very Law also came to be (as we formerly intimated) as it were the Common Right of the Society.

IV. We

IV.
We need not commemorate, how the whole Society, by Common Consent, transferred their Power of Coercing or Punishing Delinquents, upon some few Wise and Good men ; or upon One single person, who had the reputation of being the Wisest and best among them all. That which will be more pertinent and useful for us to observe, is this ; that in a Society those only were accounted Just, or Favourers and Maintainers of Justice, who being content with their own Rights, did not invade the Rights of any other man, and so did injury to none : and those Unjust, or Doers of Injustice, who being not content with their own Rights, did fly out and invade those of others ; and so doing them harm either by rapine, or personal violence, or some other way, were the Authours of an Injury.

And thus, truly, for some time, men lived Peaceably and Happily, and especially under either many Wise and Good Governors, or one only Wise and Good Prince or King ; who being wholly intent upon the conservation of the publick Utility, made, and by the Consent of the People, established divers Laws, by which they might either prevent Dissentions among the People,

or

or compose them, if any did arise. But, (such was the Corruption of mens manners) in process of time; it came to pass, that the Government delapsed into the hands of Princes, or Kings that were not Good, but Vicious and Tyrannical: and they being either Depos'd, or killed, the whole returned again upon the People, who instantly destroying each other, by reason of Tumults and the Factions of those who affected superiority and aspired to Empire; and being at length weary of living by force and hostility, and exhausted by Enmities and Discissions, they became willing again to submit to the Government of Magistrates, Princes, or Kings. But, having by sad experience found, that the Wills and mandates of Princes had formerly passed for absolute Laws; the People enter into certain Compacts, or Covenants with their Governors, about those Laws, according to which they desired to be Governed: and thus they again brought themselves under Laws, i. e. under strict Rights.

VI.

But, not to descend to Latter times; and that we may touch upon only that Chief Head, which regards the preservation of mans Life, (as the Dearest of things) whereof special Care was had from the beginning, that

that every man's security might be established by Common Pactions and Laws: it appears that those most Wise and Good Founders of Laws, fixing their eye of Providence upon the Society of life, and those things, which men usually do each to other; did not only declare that it was a wicked act, and hainous Crime, to kill a man, but also decree that the Murderer should be punished with more than common Ignominy, and the loss of his Head. And to this they seem to have been induced, partly by considering the Conciliation of men among themselves (of which we hinted somewhat even now) in respect whereof men ought not to be as forward to destroy an Animal of the same species with themselves, as to destroy one of another species, over whose life they have a power granted them by Nature: and partly by the consideration of this, that men ought to abhor that, from which no emolument or advantage toward the quiet and happy spending of their days can accrue, but on the contrary, must be wholly destructive theremunto.

VII.

For, indeed, from the Beginning, to those, who fully understood and attended to the Utility of that Constitution; there was no need of any other Cause or Respect, to make

make them contain themselves from doing any act toward the Violation thereof; but, as for those, who could not sufficiently comprehend of what high moment or Concern that Cause, the common Utility, was; these abstained from committing mutual slaughters, only upon the account of Fear of those sharp Punishments, which the Laws, in that case made, threaten to inflict upon those who break them. And this we may observe to be frequently Exemplified even in our own days. And, truly, whoso well consider, how great the Utility of such a Constitution is; they are sufficiently instructed and comparated to the constant observance thereof, without any other sinister respect: but, such as are not capable of understanding that grand and fundamental respect, the Utility of it, do conform themselves thereto only out of Fear of those Punishments, that the Laws threaten them, and which were, by the more prudent sort of men, invented and made against such, as had no regard to the Utility of the Constitution, the Major part of the multitude admitting them as Legitimate.

VIII.

For, at first, no one of those Laws, which have been either in Writing, or by Tradition, derived to us, and are to descend down

to our posterity, did subsist or depend upon any Force or Violence whatsoever; but (as we touch't before) upon the mere Consent of the People that used it. For, it was not by strength of Body, or imperious sway, but only Prudence of mind, whereby those transcended the Vulgar, who proposed those Laws to the suffrage of the People; and this by inducing some men to consider what would be profitable (especially, when they did not before so well understand it, as they ought) and by terrifying others merely with the greatness of the punishments annexed. Nor could they, indeed, make use of any other remedy for the Cure of the people's ignorance of the Utility of those Laws, than that of their own Fear of the Punishments prescribed by the Laws: because even in our days, it is Fear alone which contains Vulgar men within the bounds of their duty, and hinders them from committing any thing against either the publick or private Commodity.

IX.

And, assuredly, if all men could equally both understand, and bear in mind, what is truly Profitable; they would need no Laws at all, but would of their own accord beware of doing such things, as the Laws forbid, and do such as the Laws prescribe and

and injest: since only to know what is profitable, and what hurtful, would be more than sufficient to induce them to avoid this, and pursue that. But as for those, who do not discern what is Beneficial, what Hurtful, & doubtless, the Commination of Punishments against them, is highly necessary: insomuch as the very Fear of the Punishment, impendent doth cause them to suppress and bridle those heats of their passions, which instigate them to unjust actions; and in a manner, compel them, though against their Wills, to do what is right and consequentious to Reason.

X.

Hercupon was it, that the Antient Law-makers ordained, that even the Involuntary and meekly Casual slaughter of a man, should not be free from all Mulct, or punishment. Not that they might not, to such as affected Voluntary man-slaughter, give any occasion of pretext or excuse for what they should do of set purpose in that kind: but that they might not seem not to have used sufficient Caution and Diligence, as to that Difficult particular. Nor could this course but prove Beneficial, for the same Causes, for which men were expressly prohibited to kill each other. So that considering that of those actions of this kind that are done involun-

involuntarily, some happen to Humane Nature from Causes that could not be foreseen, nor any ways prevented; and others again happen merely through our Negligence, want of circumspection, and incognitancy of the danger imminent: therefore, that they might, as much as possible, prevent our negligence and heedlessness, that may conduce to the destruction of our Neighbours; they provided, that even an involuntary slaughter of a man should not pass altogether unpunished, and by the very fear of that punishment or Malediction, making men more heedful and circumspect, they most happily diminished the Frequency of this Crime of Homicide.

X L

Nay, we farther conceive, that even those slaughters of men which were permitted by the Law, were made lyable to those accustomed Expiations by publick Lustrations, for no other cause but only this; that those, who first introduced the use of those solemn Expiations of Humane blood, had it in their thoughts, to deter men from involuntary slaughter, which was too too frequent.

X II.

For the Vulgar sort of men stood in need of something to restrain evn their Heedlessness, that so they might be kept from doing

ing, out of rashness, any action, that shou'd not conduce to the Publick Utility, or Security which the Antient Sages and first Law-makers well understanding, did not only decree severe Punishments, but strook also a certain grievous Fear into their Minds, the Reason of which was not equally manifest to common heads, with that of the punishments expressed : and this chiefly by declaring, that such, who had killed a man, by what means or Accident soever, should remain Impure and Polluted, till they had purged themselves of that blood by solemn Lustrations.

XIII.

For, the Brutal part of the Soul, or that wherein the Affections and Passions have their residence; being by wholsom Laws as it were new moulded and framed, came at length to that Mansuetude and Gentleness, which now adays so much flourisheth in the World: those Arts of Taming and Civilizing mens minds, which were from the beginning invented and practised by those Sages, who first ruled the rash multitude, being applyed as Sovereign and effectual Remedies against the violence of their Wild and furious Affections ; of which this is one chief act among the rest, that men shou'd not indiscriminately destroy each other.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXVIII.

*Between whom Right and Justice is to be
exercised.*

The premises considered, it may with good reason be enquired of us, between whom as well Right and the violation of it, which is Injury, as Justice and what is opposed unto it, Injustice, doth properly consist, or is to be found? and therefore we are to state and explicate the matter, by a comparison betwixt Men and other Animals.

As therefore, there is no Reason of Right or Injury, or Just and Unjust, betwixt Animals that could

not make a common Agreement, not to hurt, nor be hurt by mutual invasion: so neither is there between those Nations which either would not, or could not enter into a Common Pact and reciprocal Engagement, not to hurt each other, or to suffer hurt each from other.

Omnia, que in hoc capite tradi-
ta invenies, verbatim defampro-
fuerunt, ex Porphyrii libro [de
'Ανθρ.] de Abstinentia prima.

OL. III. For,

III.

For, Just or Right, the conservation whereof is Justice, hath no being at all, but in mutual Society, and so Justice is a Good of a Society, insomuch as the effect of it is, that every single person of the Society may live in security, and void of that anxiety, which the continual Fear of harm doth create. Whence it evidently follows that whatever Animals, or whatever men either cannot or will not make an Association among themselves, upon the condition of mutual safety, must want that Good, or be reciprocally obliged by no bond of Right or Justice, in order to their living securely: and so to them there can remain no other Reason of security, but only this, to do harm to others, that they be not harmed themselves.

IV.

At, therefore, when one of those Brute Animals, among which there hath past no such Agreement or Pact, doth hurt another; though it may be said that he doth harm or hurt to the other, yet it cannot be said, that he doth an Injury to the other, because he was not bound by any Right, Compact, or Law, not to hurt him: exactly so, if one man of that Nation, among which is no Paction or Society, doth hurt another man; though

though it may be said, that he doth hurt him, yet not that he is Injurious to him; or doth him an Injury, because he was not obliged by any Compact or Law, not to hurt him.

V.

We here speak of Brute Animals, not as if there were any even of those, who live in Herds or Companies, that are capable of entering into Agreements or Pacts not to harm each other; and so might be conceived to be Just, if they do not hurt each other, and Unjust, if they do: but only to the end, that from thence it may be the better understood, that even among Men Justice of it self is nothing, insomuch as it is found only in the mutual Societies, according to the amplitude of every Country, in which the Inhabitants may conveniently enter into Agreements and Covenants of doing nor receiving any hurt; since otherwise, and in a man considered as Solitary, or out of all Society, there can be no Justice at all; and what is Justice in one Society of men, may be, and frequently is, in respect of Contrary Practices and Covenants, downright injustice in another.

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VI. But

VI.

But can Justice intercine betwixt Men and any other Animals? Certainly, not. For, if men could make a Covenant with Brute Animals, as they can with other men, that they should not Kill, nor be indiscreetly Killed by them; then, indeed, might the Reason of Just or Right be founded betwixt them and us, insomuch as the end of that covenant would be the Security of both Parties: but, because it is impossible, that Animals void of Reason should be obliged by a Law common betwixt them and us, who are endowed with Reason; it must also be impossible for us to obtain more assurance of Security from Animals, than from things Inanimate; so that there is no other way for us to secure our selves from Brutes, but only to execute that power of Destroying them, which Nature hath given us.

VII.

And here, perhaps you'l ask us, by the way; *Why is it that we usually Kill even such Animals, as are weak and innoxious, and so ought not to be feared?* Whereto we answer, that most men destroy such Animals, out of Intemperance and a certain Savagehess or Cruelty in their nature; as many do, out of Immanity or Cruelty, commit outrages also upon men living out of their Society, though

though there be no reason why they should fear any harm from them. But, still it is one thing to offend against the rules of *Temperance*, or any of its subordinate Virtues, as Sobriety, Lenity or Mansuetude, or (if you please) meet Humanity, or Goodness of Nature: and another thing to violate *Justice*, which presupposeth certain Laws and Facts established by mutual Consent and Obligation.

VIII.

Nor can it be truly said (what some affirm) that we have a power granted to us by Law, to destroy any such Animals, as can be no way offensive or destructive to Mankind: though, to speak freely, there is scarce any kind of Living Creatures, among all those, which we have a power granted us to destroy, but, being permitted to increase to infinite multitudes, would prove pernicious to Mankind; however, being preserved alive in Competent numbers, they are many ways very useful to our lives.

IX.

This may be exemplified in Sheep, Kine and Bulls, Horses, &c. which being kept alive in a Competeat number, afford as ma-

hy necessaries for life ; but, if they were let alone to multiply to excessive numbers, certainly they could not but prove very hurtful, if not altogether destructive to us ; and this partly in respect of their Strength, partly in respect of their Consuming or Devouring the fruits of the Earth, that should serve for our subsistence ; And, for this very cause is it, that we are not prohibited to destroy such Animals : and reason adviseth us to preserve so many of them alive, as may be both useful to us, and easily ruled by us.

X.

For, as to Lions, Bears, Wolves, and other Beasts called Wild (whether little or great) we cannot take such a certain number of them, as being preserved may afford us any necessary relief, or be of use to us in our lives ; as we may of Kine, Sheep, Horses, and the rest that are called Tame and Gentle Animals : and thence is it, that we endeavour wholly to exterminate and destroy those ; and of these to cut off only so many, as are over and above a competent stock.

XI.

Hereupon (that we may highly touch upon that also) we may conceive, that even among

among those Nations, who make their choice of certain sorts of Animals for their food, the matter was determined and prescribed by certain Laws, grounded upon Reasons correspondent to those, we have now given; and as for those Animals, that were not to be eaten; there was respect had to their Utility, and Inutility in other respects, and for some reason peculiar to each Country; to the Constitutions whereof there is no necessity for us to adhere, who live not in any of those places.

XII.

Now from these Considerations we come to understand, that from the very Beginning a Difference was put betwixt the Killing of Men and the Killing of all other Animals. For, as to other Animals, it is manifest, that no one of those ancient Sages, who have expressly prescribed what we should, and what we should not do, did forbid us to kill them: because that Utility, which is perceived in respect of them, arose from a custom of acting, contrary to that, which we have mentioned concerning men; nor could it be, that men, living promiscuously among Beasts, could preserve themselves in safety otherwise than by expelling, or destroying them.

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XIII. But,

XIII.

But, as concerning Mankind; when among those, who lived in the days of old, there were some more Comely and Graceful than the rest (and likely enough it is that such were the First Perswaders of men to enter into Pact, for the Common safety) who rememb'ring how they had sometimes abstained from slaughter, in respect of that Utility, which concerned their safety; had also, when they were congregated into one Company, put others in mind of what had then hapned, when they lived promiscuously; that by abstaining from the slaughter of an Animal of their own species, they might defend the Society of life, which is Generally the cause of his proper safety, to every single person; and that it had been formerly profitable to go apart from the Society of other Animals, or men flocking together, that so they might not provoke or incense them; that were ready enough of themselves to do harm: Hereupon, we say, men came to restrain themselves from laying hands upon an Animal of their own species, that came and offered himself into the Communition of things necessary to safety of life.

XIV. But,

But, in process of time, their Progenies multiplying on each part, and Animals of different species being depulsed and kept apart; men began to make use of their Reason (whereas before that time, they had trusted altogether to Memory) and to enter into Consultation, about what was to be done in order to their safety, when they should come together and conjoyn their habitations. For, they mainly endeavoured to coercē those, who rashly and impudently cut each others throats, and thereby made the mutual assistance, that men were able to afford each other, daily the weaker; and this, chiefly because those great incommodities which had frequently fallen upon their Predecessors, in the like cases, were utterly forgotten. And earnestly striving to bring matters to that good pass, they at length made and introduced those very Laws and Constitutions, which continue in all Cities and Nations even to this very day: the multitude of their own accord consenting to them; forasmuch as the Major part were already very sensible, how much greater Utility would from thence accrue unto them living in mutual Society. In like manner, it conduceth also to common security; as to destroy whatever is per-

pernicious : so also to preserve whatever is useful to the extirmination of what is pernicious.

XV.

And thus is it profitable ; that upon these considerations, the slaughter of all other Animals came to be permitted, and that of Men, expressly prohibited, by the Law : but we have stay'd too long upon this argument.

CHAP. XIX.

With what right Justice is to be exercised.

THE being certain, then, that Justice is founded upon the mutual agreement, and Common Paction of men living in Society ; it remains that every man, whether Native, or Stranger admitted, ought, from the time he hath given up his name to a Society, to account himself to be a Member of that Society, upon this Condition, either expressly, or tacitly, that he hurt none of his Fellow Members, nor be hurt by any other. Wherefore, let him either stand to this Condition of the Common Paction ; or depart out of the Society : because he is not to be tolerated to live in the Society, upon any other

other Condition, but the very same, upon which he was incorporated into it. Whereupon it necessarily follows, that since, by Nature, no man is willing either to receive harm from, or to do harm to another; therefore ought no man to do that to another, which he would not another should do to him.

II.

This considered, it may well be thought, that the Laws of all Societies were made principally, if not solely for the sake of Wise men; though not that Wise men should not do unjustly by others; but that others should not do unjustly by them; who are so well prepared and disposed of themselves, as to need no Laws to restrain them from doing harm to any man. For, they have prescribed bounds to their Cupidities, and composed their Desires to the simple rules of Nature, which requires nothing that cannot be obtained but by ways of injustice: nor indeed, is there any of Natures Pleasures, that doth induce a man to do injury to another; but that which doth induce him thereunto, must be some such exorbitant Cupidity, as is created by vain and unbridled Opinion.

III.

For, Nature having (for Example) in abundance produced Herbs, Corn, Fruits,

for

for food competent and useful; and Water for Drink pleasant and wholsome; it cannot be the pleasure of satisfying pure Hunger and Thirst, that should cause a man to rob, spoil, defraud, or murder his Neighbour, or do any of those Injuries to others, which men usually do: but it must be the vain desire of living more opulently, splendidly and wantonly, that so he may acquire wealth enough to discharge the expences of his Luxury. The same may be said also of those, who not being content with simple Cloaths, simple Houses, simple Wives, &c. and carried away by Ambition, Pride, Lust, and the like enormous passions, desire infinitely more than what sober and temperate Nature either wants or knows how to use.

IV.

Furthermore, seeing that the Wise man doth all things for his own sake, or with reflection upon himself; nothing certainly can more conduce to his own advantage; than strictly to celebrate, and constantly uphold Justice. For, in giving to every one his due, and harming no man; he, to the most of his power, doth keep the Society whole and sound, and consequently preserve himself in peace and safety: forasmuch as he cannot be safe, when the peace of the Society is disturbed and endangered, nor doth

he

he provoke any man to avenge an injury suffered at his hands, or fear any Multe or punishment to be inflicted upon him by publick decree; and so, being Conscious to himself of no Evil by him done, he remains free from all Perturbations; from which to be free, is the chiefest of all the fruits of Justice, and while he reaps that, what can be do, that should more conduce to his own advantage.

V.

Nor is there why you should conceive, that he, who violates the Right of another, though secretly and without the knowledge of any man, can live in the same security and freedom from Perturbation, as the Just man doth, because (as we said afore) he cannot assure himself, that his Injustice shall never be brought to light; for, Crimes, though they may be secret, yet can they never be secure; nor doth it avail an Offendor, to be concealed from others, while he can never be concealed from himself.

VI.

And, truly, though his offence be never so much concealed in the present; yet is it very uncertain, whether or no it will remain so concealed till his death. For, first, there is a Kind of Jealousie and Suspition that always follows close at the heels of Improbity:

probity: and again, there have been many, who have detected themselves, some in dreams, others in fits of Delirium in Fever, others in their Wine, others out of forgetfulness for the time. So that a wicked man, though he may for a time deceive even the Gods and men (as they say) yet ought he not to be confident, that his Deeds shall always continue undiscovered.

VII.

Upon these grounds, it is manifest, that notwithstanding Injustice be not Evil absolutely, or in itself, because, what is reputed Injust in one place, may be very Just, and Legal in another: yet nevertheless it is always an evil in respect of that fear which arising from, and fomented by the horrour and stings of an evil Conscience, createth a continual suspect in him, that some time or other his unjust deeds may come to the ears of the Avengers of Injustice, and so he be called to a severe account for them. And so there is nothing that more conduces, as to security, so likewise to a quiet and pleasant life, than to live Innocently, i.e. upon no occasion to violate the Common Covenant of Peace.

VIII.

Wherefore, since the Just and Unjust have this Contrariety between them; that the
Just

Just of all men are most free from Perturbations, and the Unjust, of all men, most obnoxious to Perturbations: what can be more profitable than Justice to those; what more hurtful than Injustice to those? For, can Anguish of mind, Sollicitudes, and continual Fears be profitable to any man?

IX.

Justice, therefore, being so great a Good, and Injustice so great an Evil; let us always embrace the one, and abhor the other. And if at any time our mind seem to stagger, and incline toward Injustice; let us think upon some Grave, Wise, and Good man, and supposing him to be always present with us, and overlooking all our actions: that so we may do nothing, which we would not do, if he were really present.

coheret. Marc. Antonii lib. de Seipst 12. J. C. 26.

In scriptis illis
picures pre-
cipitatur, ut in
memoriam
maris semper
habemus; An-
tiquorum ali-
quem corum,
qui Virtutem

X.

Herby we shall not only avoid the doing of any thing openly against Justice, but also of offending in secret against the rules and principles of Honesty. For, this Wise and Good man will be to us instead of a Guardian or Tutor, whom because we revere, we shall be afraid to offend. Fol-

lowing

lowing this Counsell therefore, thus argue with your self; if this Reverend Person were present, I would not do this: why

*Consonum plane monito illi
Pythagorico, in ureis cas.
interveneret; tu plus
quam cunctos alios te disce
revereri.*

therefore shall I do it in his absence? He doubtless, would check me for doing this, because it is Un-reverent.

just: why therefore shall I not check my self, and not do it? And if you do all things so, as if some Reverend Person saw all you did; you shall soon learn to do nothing amiss: for, if you so fear another man, you will quickly come to feare your self.

CHAP. XXX.

of Beneficence, Gratitude, Piety, Observance.

Having done with the consideration of Justice, we come to those Virtues that are Cousin-Germans thereunto, as we formerly intimated; in that each of them also doth concern others directly, and our selves but by reflection: and though they be not, as Justice is, prescribed by Laws and Covenants; yet do they import a certain obligation

ligation like that of Justice, and that from Decorum, Office and Use.

II.

Of these, the first is *Beneficence*, or the doing of Good turns to others ; to which all are obliged, who are able either by their assistance, or purse, to help such as stand in need of their help. Forasmuch as if they refuse to afford the needy their assistance, then do they inevitably incur the censure of being Barbarous, Cruel, Inhumane : and if to relieve their wants with their purse, then cannot they escape the opprobrious terms of Sordid, Tenacious, Avaricious persons. Where-

Duis sceptrum talit opifum
& Imperatorum & Hominum
ille vir, *Marcus Antonius*, quod,
quotiescumq; illi animus fuit
pauperi alicui, aut aliis indiges-
tione ferre, nunquam respon-
derit, non suppetere illi num-
mos, unde id fieret, q; modis
nulli illi unquam talis necessi-
tas obigerit, ut ab alio sumere
cogeretur, in de. sciss. III. 1.
sub calcem.

as, on the contrary, if they assist them in one kind ; then shall they be reputed Benign, Officious, Good natur'd : and if they relieve them in the other, presently they are cryed up for Liberal, Mumpheant, Magnificent, and Noble-minded persons. So that hence it appears, that all men, who are able, in respect either of Power or Estate, to assist and relieve others of the Society ; are obliged thereunto, (provided it extends not

to Prodigence, or the impairing of their own Fortunes) upon the Consideration of their own Good or Utility.

III.

For those, who practise this Virtue of Beneficence, thereby certainly procure to themselves Respect, Good-will, and (what very much conduceth to their quiet living) a Dearness or tender Estimation from those, upon whom they practise it: as, on the other side, who neglect the exercise of it, gain to themselves the Disrespect, Ill-will, and (what very much conduceth to their troublous living) the odium and Contempt of others. Take special heed, therefore, that you do not omit to be Beneficent at least in small matters; that so you may not lose the advantage of being accounted ready to gratifie others even in Great.

IV.

τὸν μεγάλον ἀπόστασιν τῆς πάθους. Plutarch. 2. advers. Colot. Conforme plane est sacræ illi Sententia: Maximaq[ue] vis d[omi]nus p[ro]m[oti]or, & laus Cœlestis, beatum magis est Dare, quam Accipere. Att. 20.

It was not without good Consideration we formerly said, that it was not only more Honourable, but also more Delightful, to Give, than to receive a benefit: because, the Giver thereby makes himself Superior to the Receiver, and reaps

reaps moreover the interest of Thanks ; and nothing adfers more joy to a man, than to be heartily thanked for a favour. For, a Beneficent person is like a Fountain ; to which if you but grant a Reasonable Soul ; or Mind , what joy will it not be possessed of , when it shall see how many spacious Corn-fields and Pastures do flourish and even smile again with plenty and verdure , and all by the Diffusion of its Streams upon them ?

The second is *Gratitude*, to which every man is reciprocally obliged, who receives a benefit : at least, unless he hath a mind to expose himself to common Hatred and the greatest of shames. For ingratitude is worthily hateful in the eyes of all men : because seeing nothing can be more according to Nature , than to be propense to receive a Good ; it must be highly Contrary to Nature not to be propense to return the tribute of Thankfulness to the Author of that Good.

VI.

But , seeing that no man stands more gratefully affected toward his Benefactors , than the Wise man ; it may be lawful for us to assert, that it is the Wise man only , who knows how to fulfil , and doth fulfil

Solum Sapientem scire Gratiam, qualiter oportet, referre, affirmare.
Seneca Epist. 81.

the duty of Gratitude; because he alone stands ready, upon all occasions, to express his thankfulness to his Friends both present and absent & Tyca, though they are extint.

VII.

Others, indeed, many times pay the debt of thanks to their present friends, and this perhaps for their own farther ends, and to incite and encourage them to some new favour: but, how few are there, who gratefully commemorate the beneficence and liberality of their absent Benefactors? Where shall we find him, that honours the memory of his deceased Patron? that doth not in his heart rejoice, that his Benefactor is dead, as if death had cut off all the bonds of his Gratitude, and cancelled all the obligations of his Good turns? that studies all ways of Retribution, Kindness, Respect, and Assistance to the Wife, Children, Friends, Family, and Kindred of his Dead Reliever?

VIII.

The third is *Piety*, the most sacred species of Gratitude. This Virtue we are to exercise primarily toward our Parents, to whom we are more obliged, than to all the World besides for, we may owe our education, fortune, erudition, &c. to others; but

to

to our Parents we owe even ourselves: and therefore if ingratitude to others be hateful, that which is shewn to our Parents must certainly be most hateful and detestable.

TO THE END OF HIS LIFE HE WROTE IN THIS WAY

We say, *primarily* to our Parents; because Piety is secondarily, and as it were upon consequence, extended to our Kindred, and chiefly to our Brothers and Sisters, to whom we are obliged by the bond of Consanguinity, and the intervening interest of our Parents: so that we cannot shew ourselves disrespectful and unkind to any of our blood, but we must be, at the same time, highly ungrateful to our Parents, Grand-Parents, and all the line of our Progenitors; who in the circle of their love, and benevolence, comprehended all that were, and should be derived from their loins.

TO THE END OF HIS LIFE HE WROTE IN THIS WAY

Nor is this Piety distinguishable from that Charity or Dearness, we are to conceive, and constantly bear toward our Native Country, which comprehends our Parents and all our Kindred, and doth both receive us when we are born, and nourish and protect us afterward. Wherefore, as we are, by the relation of our blood, obliged to bear Respect and Kindness toward those of our Kindred; so are we by the more General

interest of our Country, obliged to respect and tender the good of all those of our Society; but more especially the Magistrates and Princes, or Monarchs thereof, who by defending our Country, and the Laws of it in general, confer this benefit upon us in particular; that under the protection of their Care and Power, our Rights are so preserved, as that we may live securely and peaceably.

XI.

The fourth is *Observance*, or that Veneration we owe to all persons of Eminency, in any kind. And this affection of Awe and Reverence is accompanied partly with Gratitude and Piety; insomuch as we cannot any way better express the gratefulness of our minds, than by giving due Veneration and Worship to our Benefactors, Parents, Governors, Princes, and all men of Dignity and Power; and partly with Honour and Respects; insomuch as it is the best testimony we can give of our internal sentiments of their deservings, who excel in Age, Wisdom, Learning, and especially Virtue; which is the most Honourable of all Humane Excellencies.

XII.

To this Observance belongs also that, which men call *Religion* and *Sanctity* toward the

the Gods, whom we are bound to Revere and Honour no otherwise than we are our Parents; yet, not in respect to any Good either received, or expected at their hands; but (as we formerly intimated) only in respect of the transcendent Excellency, Majesty, and Supremacy of their Nature. Because, whatever is excellent deserves a just Veneration; and no Excellence can equal that of the Divine Nature, it being Immortal and most Blissful. And thus, understanding that the * Gods do neither create troubles to themselves, nor give any occasion of troubles to us; we shall come to be truly Religious, i. e. piously and holily to Revere and admire their most Excellent Nature, without all Hope or Reward.

^{*} Dum plus a quo
Pius in Deum esse
vult, Impius &
Blasphemus de-
prehenditur.

CHAP. XXXI.

Of Friendship.

TO the exercise of this Virtue (the last of all those, that retain to Justice) all are obliged, who Love, and are beloved again by the same persons. And well

may we make it the Crown of this our Discourse upon the Virtues, or means to make life happy ; when nothing that lies in the power of Wisdom to obtain , doth afford more Comfort , more Delight , than true Friendship ; and the same Reason that confirms the mind not to fear any lasting or eternal Evil ; doth also assure , that during life there is no Sanctuary so safe , no protection so secure , as that of true Friendship , which together with that Security , doth adfer also very great pleasures .

II.

For as Enmity , Hate , Envy , Despite , are adverse to , and inconsistent with Pleasures ; so are Friendships , and Amities not only the most faithful Conservers , but also the most effectual and certain Causers of Pleasures , and that as well to ones Friend , as to ones self : in that thereby men do not only enjoy the Good things of the present more fully ; but are erected and animated with hope of such as are to succeed in the future . And , since Solitude and want of Friends exposeth a man to dangers and fears ; certainly it must be very highly rational in us , to procure Friendships , whereby the mind may be confirmed in the present , and possessed with lively hopes of enjoying very great Pleasures in the future .

III.

III.

But, in the choice of our Friends, we are to be exceeding cautious and prudent : for it concerns us to be more circumspect with whom we eat ; than about what we eat : To eat ones meat alone, and spend ones days in Solitude ; indeed, is to live the life of a Lion or a Wolf : and yet no Friend is better than such a one, that is not as well pleasant, as faithful, so that his Conversation may be the best sauce to our meat. Such a Friend, therefore, is to be sought for, to whom nothing is more in esteem, than Candor, Simplicity and Verity ; and who is not morose, querulous and murmuring at all things, but full of Complacency, Alacrity, and pleasant Hopes, that so his Conversation may not sownre, but sweeten the occurrences of life.

IV.

Friendship, we acknowledge, doth consist in, and is kept alive by the mutual participation of Pleasures, or Goods ; and yet we cannot admit it to be therefore necessary, that bewixt Friends there should be a Community of the Goods of Fortune : as that Philosopher conceived, who was the Author of that saying, that *among Friends all things are Common*. And our Reason is, that Community of Estates implies mutual diffidence

diffidence or distrust of each others Constancy, in case of Adversity or Poverty on one part : and Distrust is wholly inconsistent with friendship. They only are friends, who can with full Confidence and freedom take and make use of so much of their friends Goods or Estate, as the necessity of their present condition doth require; & this no otherwise, than as if it were absolutely their own, though each party still reserves a propriety in the full of his own Estate.

V.

This, we are assured, will sound strange in the ears of the Vulgar ; but, what are the Common People to us, seeing that no Faith or Constancy is to be found in their Kindness and Friendship? For, being wholly incapable of any part of Wisdom, that might render their Conversation commendable and grateful ; and as incapable of either understanding what is privately, what publickly profitable, or what's the difference betwixt Good Manners and Bad : it is impossible they should have any Sentiments of the Goods of Amity and Friendship ; and consequently that they should in any measure fulfil the duties thereof.

VI.

We speak, therefore, of Wise men only, among whom there is as it were a firm Covenant

tenant and League, not to love their friends less than themselves. Reason dictating, that it may, and should be so ; and Experience assuring that it frequently hath been so. So that it is most evident, as well that such a perfect Conjunction (you may call it Union) may be made betwixt Wise men ; as that nothing doth more conduce to the Quiet and Pleasure of life ; than such a Conjunction once made and conserved.

¶ VII.

For, as it is impossible for us, to conserve the sweetness and security of our lives firm, and lasting, without the influence of friendship : so it is equally impossible to conserve Friendship firm and lasting, without that Cement of Loving our Friends, at the same rate, as we do our selves. This, therefore, and Pleasure are the inseparable Adjuncts of Friendship : and who so doth not hold so full a Sympathy with his Friend, as to rejoice at his joy, and condole with him in his sorrow ; doth but pretend to the noble title of a Friend.

¶ VIII.

Considering this, the Wise man will be sure, to stand equally affected toward himself, and his Friend; what labours and pains he undergoes for his own Security and Pleasures, the same will he undergo for the Security and Plea-

Pleasures of his Friend : and as he rejoiceth to think, that he hath one, with whom he may sit, and to whom he may administer in his sickness, whom he may visit and assist in case of imprisonment, and whom he may relieve in case of want ; so will it rejoice him to be confident that he hath one, who will stick close to him, in sickness, imprisonment, want and all other Calamities. And not only this ; but his love will be so great to him, as to oblige him to suffer the greatest of torments, nay, if occasion be, even Death it self for his Friends sake.

IX.

We have known, Certainly (and from our Fathers, in whose memories it was fresh) that many of those Wise and Good men, who had the happiness of procuring to themselves full Confidence and Security in the Society of men, living in one and the same opinion, and the self-same affections with themselves ; have lived in a most pleasant and mutually comfortable League of Friendship, and been conjoined with so absolute a Neernes each to other, as that they could heartily, and without the least of reluctance, wish to suffer death in the place of their friend destined to die.

signs we see or, and indeed, there is

CONCLUSION.

AND this is the sum of all we had to say, concerning ETHICKS or MORALS, which from the very beginning we asserted to be the Noblest and most Useful part of Philosophy. We now, therefore, Conclude with this Admonition to you, whoever you are that aspire to true Wisdom (for, our Design herein was to do a piece of acceptable service to all such) that you both meditate upon, and earnestly endeavour to put in practice each one of those many Rules and Axioms of Prudence, that we have here laid down: assuring your self, that they are the very Elements or Fundamentals of the Art of Living Honestly or Virtuously, and (upon consequence) Peaceably and Happily.

We say, to Meditate upon them night and day; and as well when you are alone, as when you are in company of some faithful Friend, such to whom you may safely and comfortably say: We are (indeed) Alone: but so much the better, insomuch as we have the greater opportunity of discoursing things sincerely, and making the stricter inquisition for Truth: I speak not to many, but to you alone, and you speak not to many, but to me alone,

and

and that's enough, since we are an ample
Theatre each to other.

By this time, we presume, you are fully convinced, that he is the only *Braue and Happy man*, who hath his mind possessed with true and correspondent Conceptions of the Nature of the Gods: who is at all times prepared to bid death welcom, without the least of Fear: who hath so reasoned concerning the end of Nature, or the highest of Goods, as fully to understand, that it may be attained with the greatest facility imaginable: who stands confirmed, that whatever of Evil is to be endured by him, must, if Vehement, be short in duration; if not, Vehement, easie in toleration: who doth not emasculate and soften himself with the Childish apprehension of any such thing as inevitable Necessity, or the vulgar belief of Fate; but well understands, that he hath an absolute Freedom of Will, in all his actions, and is not subject to the Control of any influence, besides that of his own Reason; and knows also that nothing at all, or (at most) very little of Fortune can at any time intervene to cross his designs, defeat his hopes, interrupt his Felicity: and, finally, who hath composed all his Desires to the sober model of Nature, and the Rules of Wisdom, by us prescribed in this small Treatise.

And,

And, assuredly, when you shall come to be such a Man as this ; you shall never know a Perturbation, day nor night , waking nor sleeping (for, a well composed Mind keeps the same constant tenour of Serenity as well in sleep, as waking : and unquiet Dreams are but the effects of Sollicitude and unquiet thoughts in the day) and shall live like some Deity among men. For, *that man hath sublimed himself to a whole sphear above the common condition of Mortality, who spends his days in the possession of Immortal Goods.*

jugiter affectum, ut rebus sibi destinatis acquiescat; faciatque quæcunq; Genius ille voluerit, quem sui particulam & cæ avulsum Jupiter cuique attribuet, præsidem ducemque eidem futurum. Hic autem cuiusque mens est & ratio. Marc. Antonin. de seipso, lib. 5. scđ. 27.

Sapiens u-
no minor est
Jove. Horat.
lib. 1. Epist. 1.
Sapiens ille,
plenus gaudio,
hilaris, & pla-
cidus, incon-
cussus, cum
Dñs ex pari
vivit. Ac rur-
sum : Hoc est
summum bo-
num, quod si
occupas, incli-
pis Deorum
locus esse,
non supplex.
Seneca Epist.
21.

Cum Dñs vi-
vendum. Hoc
autem faciet,
qui animum
exhibuerit ita

F I N I S.